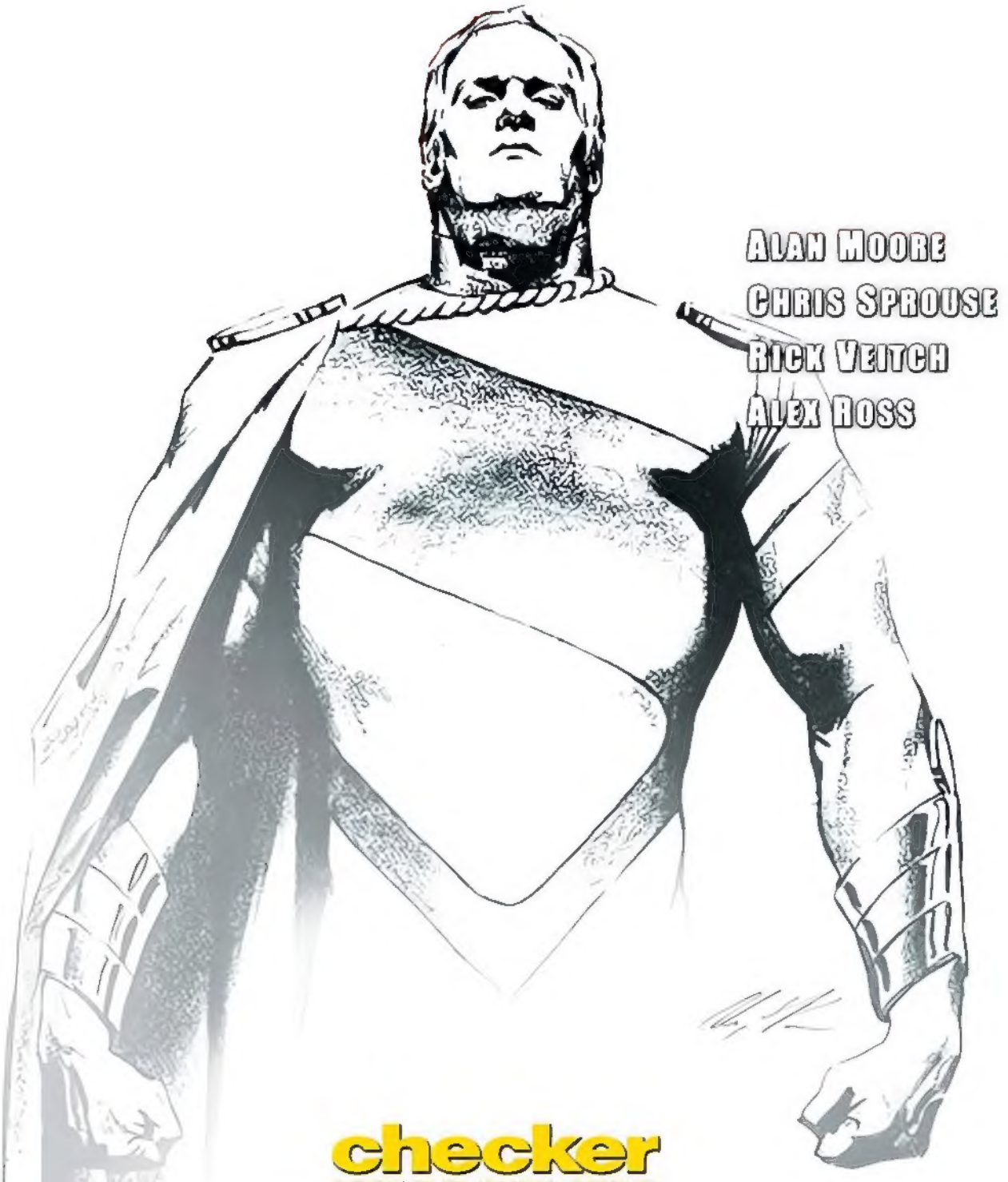
SUPREME

THE RETURN



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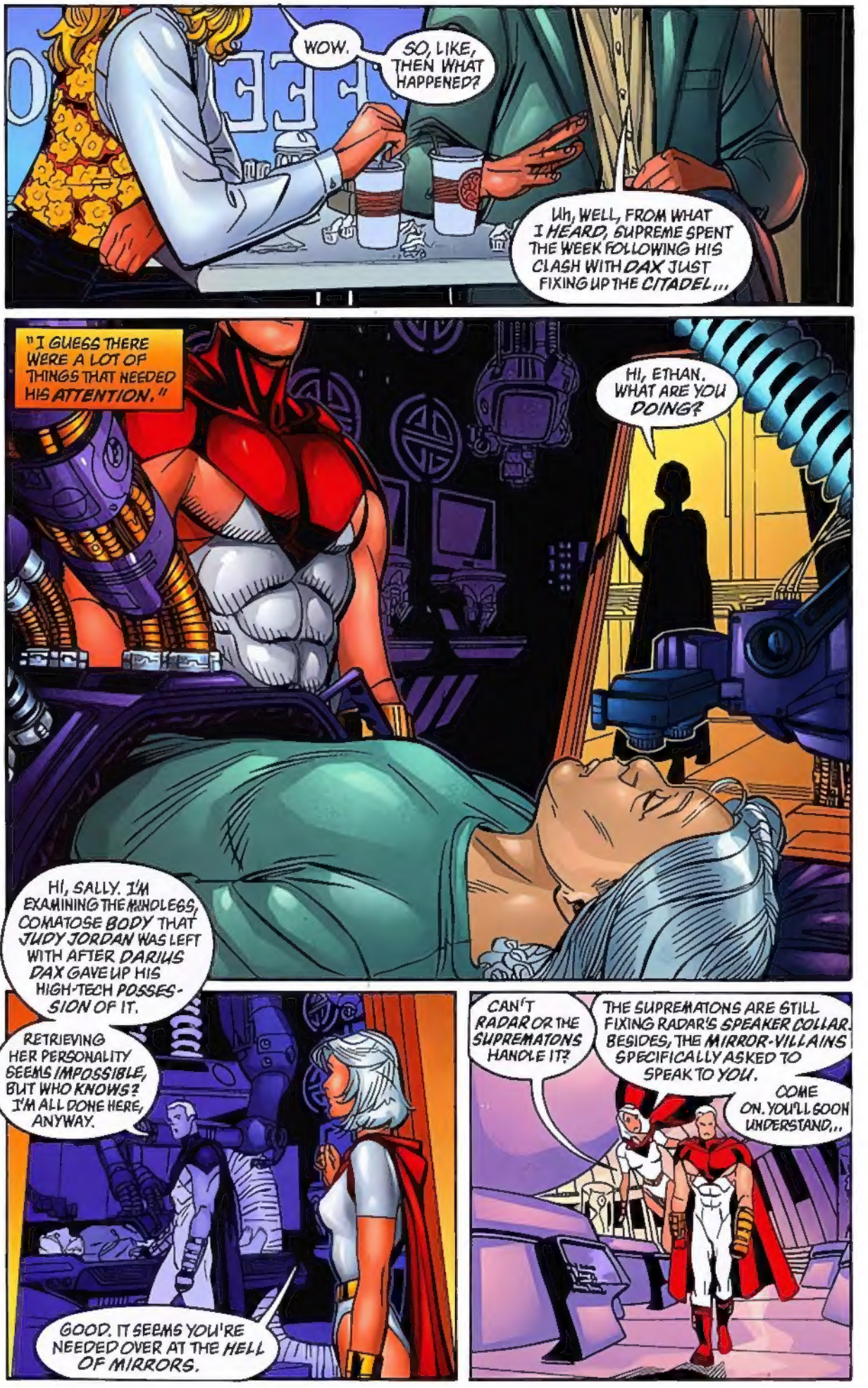
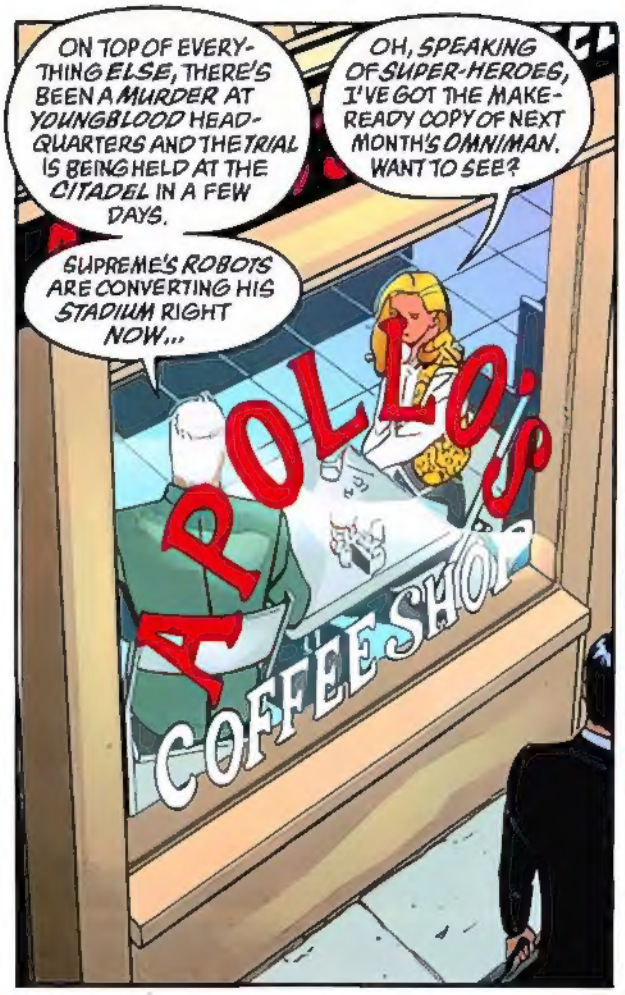
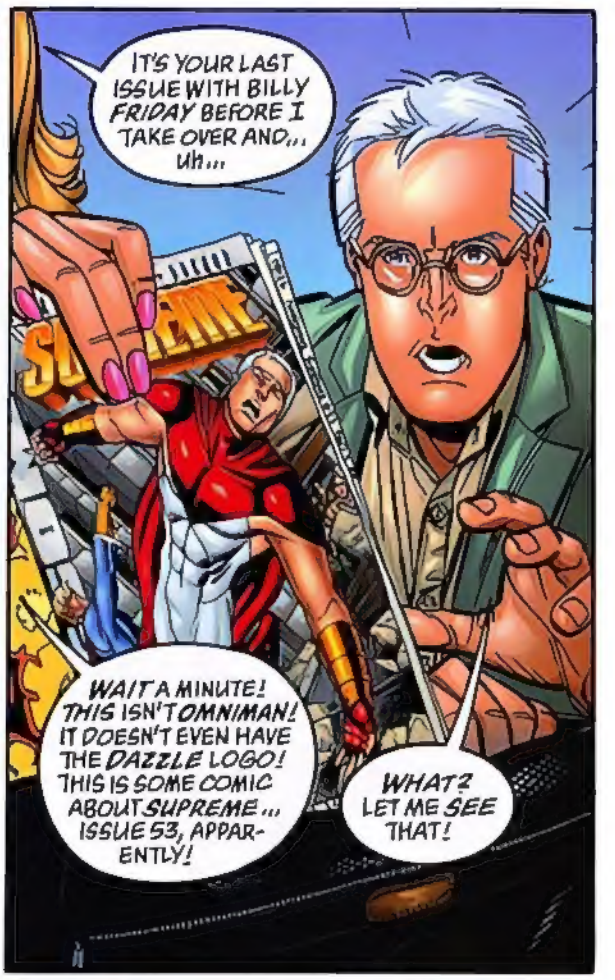
CHAPTER 01

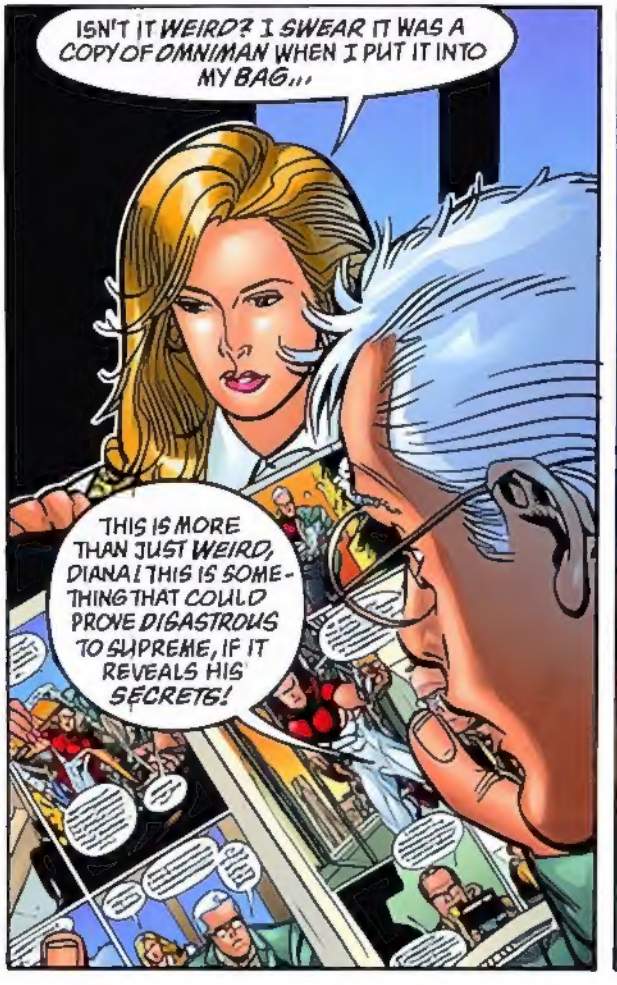

WOW.
SO, LIKE, THEN WHAT HAPPENED?
Uh, WELL, FROM WHAT I HEARD, SUPREME SPENT THE WEEK FOLLOWING HIS CLASH WITH DAX JUST FIXING UP THE CITADEL...
"I GUESS THERE WERE A LOT OF THINGS THAT NEEDED HIS ATTENTION."
HI, ETHAN. WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
HI, SALLY. I'M EXAMINING THE MINDLESS, COMATOSE BODY THAT JUDY JORDAN WAS LEFT WITH AFTER DARIUS DAX GAVE UP HIS HIGH-TECH POSSESSION OF IT.
RETRIEVING HER PERSONALITY SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE, BUT WHO KNOWS? I'M ALL DONE HERE, ANYWAY.
GOOD. IT SEEMS YOU'RE NEEDED OVER AT THE HELL OF MIRRORS.
CAN'T RADAR OR THE SUPREMATONS HANDLE IT?
THE SUPREMATONS ARE STILL FIXING RADAR'S SPEAKER COLLAR. BESIDES, THE MIRROR-VILLAINS SPECIFICALLY ASKED TO SPEAK TO YOU.
COME ON. YOU'LL SOON UNDERSTAND...

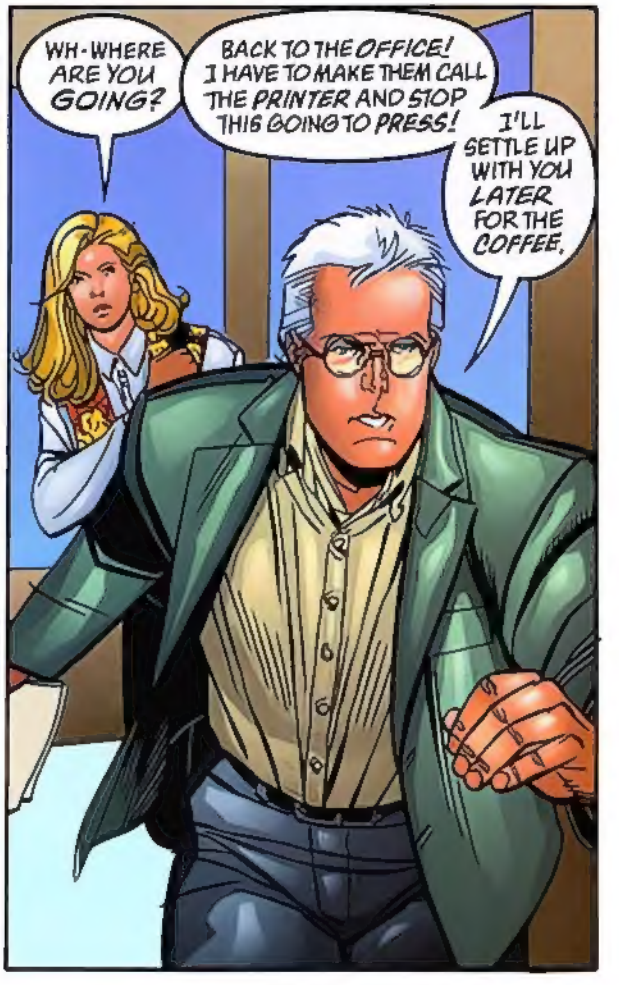
SO WAIT A MINUTE...THIS HELL OF MIRRORS! THIS IS THE PLACE WHERE SUPREME PUT BILLY FRIDAY, YEAH?
RIGHT. WHEN FRIDAY BECAME ELABORATE LAD DURING THE BATTLE WITH DAX, THE MIRROR-WORLD WAS THE ONLY PLACE THAT WOULD SAFELY CONTAIN HIS EXPANDING BULK.
ACTUALLY, THAT'S WHY SUPREME WAS NEEDED...
THEY WANT ME TO DO WHAT? I CAN'T UNDERSTAND THEM...
THEY'RE DEMANDING YOU TAKE FRIDAY BACK, NOW THAT THE SUPREMIUM EFFECT HAS WORN OFF.
SUPREME, WE BEG YOU! TAKE THIS PRATTLING FOOL FROM OUR MIDST!
THEY SAY THAT TECHNICALLY, HE CONSTITUTES A CRUEL AND UNUSUAL PUNISHMENT WHICH VIOLATES THEIR CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS.
THEY PROMISE THEY'LL STAY WELL BACK FROM THE GLASS AND WON'T TRY TO ESCAPE IF YOU OPEN THE PORTAL.
THEY'RE REALLY ANXIOUS TO GET RID OF HIM. APPARENTLY HE'S BEEN ASKING THEM QUESTIONS ABOUT THEIR CHILDHOODS AND MOTIVATIONS.
THAT FIGURES. WE'D BETTER VACATE THE CHAMBER WHILE I OPEN THE MIRROR...
AND WHAT, THESE TERRIFYING COSMIC VILLAINS WERE MORE EAGER TO EVICT BILLY FRIDAY THAN THEY WERE TO ESCAPE?
IT WOULD SEEM SO. THEY LET SUPREME RETRIEVE FRIDAY WITHOUT ANY INCIDENTS.
MIND YOU, BILLY WAS KIND OF MESSED UP. I MEAN, HE'S BEEN THROUGH SUCH A LOT LATELY...

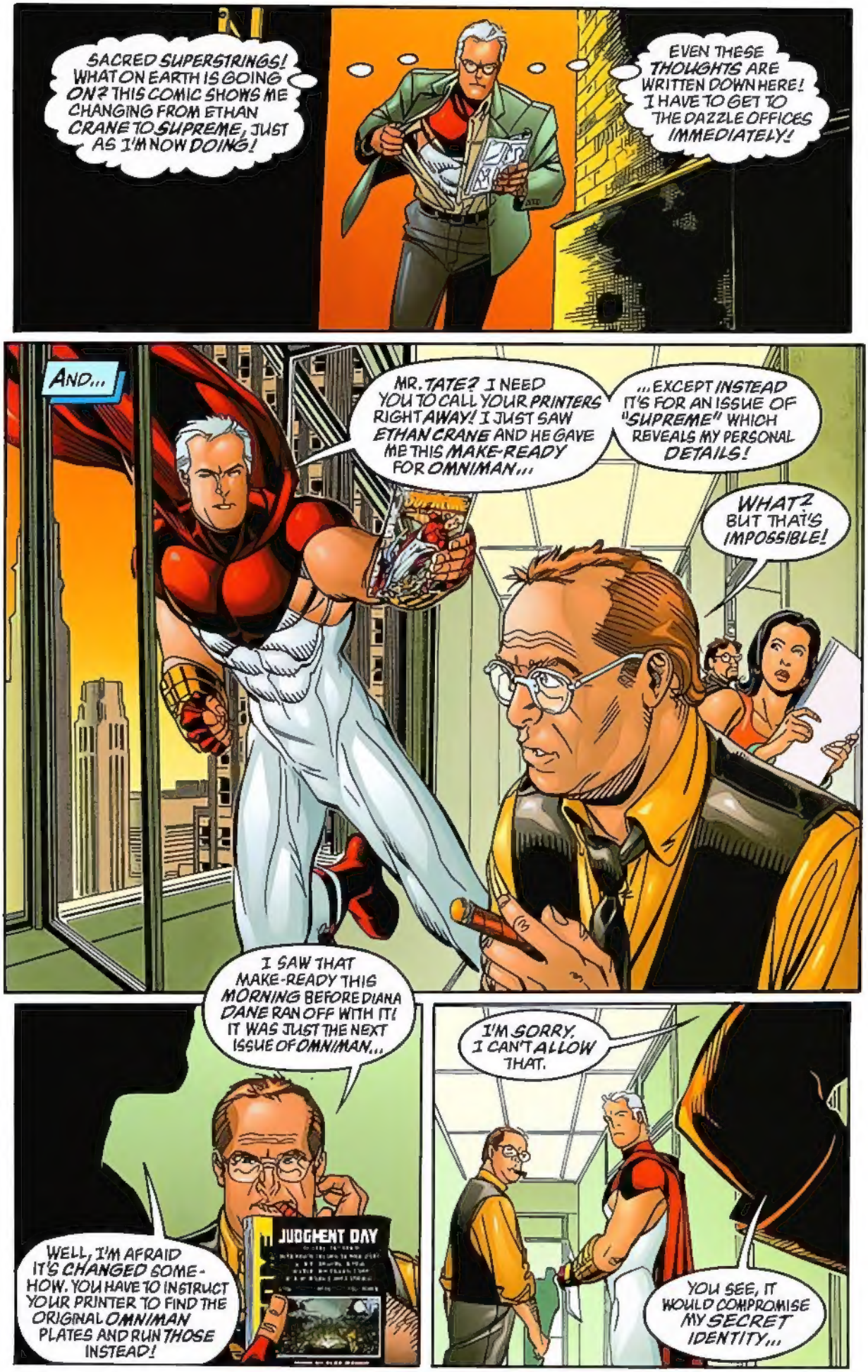
MY LAPTOP COMMUNICATOR! I HAD IT WHEN I WENT IN THERE! WE HAVE TO GO BACK AND GET IT!
POOR CREATURE. AFTER TRAVELLING THROUGH THE PRISM WORLD, THE 19th DIMENSION, THE BACKWARDS ZONE, THE 25th CENTURY, AND THE HELL OF MIRRORS, HE COMPLETELY UNHINGED...
...AND UNDRESSED! HERE...GIVE HIM MY CAPE.
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND! ALL MY 25th CENTURY ADVENTURES ARE STORED ON IT, INCLUDING THE EPIC "BILLY FRIDAY JOINS THE LEAGUE OF INFAMY BY MISTAKE!"
POOR SOUL, WHAT SHALL WE DO WITH HIM?
THERE'S ONLY ONE PLACE SPECIALIZING IN SUPER-POWER RE-LATED BREAKDOWNS...
...AND THAT'S IN STAR CITY. I'D BETTER CALL PROFESSOR NIGHT...
MISKATONIC MENTAL INSTITUTION FOR THE SUPERABILITY OBSESSED
631
KRRAKOOM
MISKATONIC? YOU MEAN MISKATONIC MENTAL INSTITUTION? SUPREME HAD BILLY FRIDAY PUT THERE?
BUT ISN'T THAT WHERE ALL THOSE OLD, MAD PROFESSOR NIGHT VILLAINS LIKE JACK-A-DANDY AND THE LOUNGE LIZARD ARE INCARCERATED?
HMM. YOU'RE RIGHT.
SUPREME PROBABLY DIDN'T THINK OF THAT. HE'S BEEN PRE-OCCUPIED LATELY...


ON TOP OF EVERYTHING ELSE, THERE'S BEEN A MURDER AT YOUNGBLOOD HEADQUARTERS AND THE TRIAL IS BEING HELD AT THE CITADEL IN A FEW DAYS.
OH, SPEAKING OF SUPER-HEROES, I'VE GOT THE MAKE-READY COPY OF NEXT MONTH'S OMNIMAN. WANT TO SEE?
SUPREME'S ROBOTS ARE CONVERTING HIS STADIUM RIGHT NOW...
APOLLO'S
COFFEE SHOP


IT'S YOUR LAST ISSUE WITH BILLY FRIDAY BEFORE I TAKE OVER AND... UH...
WAIT A MINUTE! THIS ISN'T OMNIMAN! IT DOESN'T EVEN HAVE THE DAZZLE LOGO! THIS IS SOME COMIC ABOUT SUPREME... ISSUE 53, APPARENTLY!
WHAT? LET ME SEE THAT!


ISN'T IT WEIRD? I SWEAR IT WAS A COPY OF OMNIMAN WHEN I PUT IT INTO MY BAG...
THIS IS MORE THAN JUST WEIRD, DIANA! THIS IS SOMETHING THAT COULD PROVE DISASTROUS TO SUPREME, IF IT REVEALS HIS SECRETS!


WH-WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
BACK TO THE OFFICE! I HAVE TO MAKE THEM CALL THE PRINTER AND STOP THIS GOING TO PRESS!
I'LL SETTLE UP WITH YOU LATER FOR THE COFFEE.


SACRED SUPERSTRINGS! WHAT ON EARTH IS GOING ON? THIS COMIC SHOWS ME CHANGING FROM ETHAN CRANE TO SUPREME, JUST AS I'M NOW DOING!
EVEN THESE THOUGHTS ARE WRITTEN DOWN HERE! I HAVE TO GET TO THE DAZZLE OFFICES IMMEDIATELY!
AND...
MR. TATE? I NEED YOU TO CALL YOUR PRINTERS RIGHT AWAY! I JUST SAW ETHAN CRANE AND HE GAVE ME THIS MAKE-READY FOR OMNIMAN...
...EXCEPT INSTEAD IT'S FOR AN ISSUE OF "SUPREME" WHICH REVEALS MY PERSONAL DETAILS!
WHAT? BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
I SAW THAT MAKE-READY THIS MORNING BEFORE DIANA DANE RAN OFF WITH IT! IT WAS JUST THE NEXT ISSUE OF OMNIMAN...
TIME
JUDGMENT DAY
WELL, I'M AFRAID IT'S CHANGED SOMEHOW. YOU HAVE TO INSTRUCT YOUR PRINTER TO FIND THE ORIGINAL OMNIMAN PLATES AND RUN THOSE INSTEAD!
I'M SORRY, I CAN'T ALLOW THAT.
YOU SEE, IT WOULD COMPROMISE MY SECRET IDENTITY...

...LEAVING MY FRIENDS AND FAMILY OPEN TO ATTACKS FROM THE MANY ENEMIES OF
OMNIMAN!
19th
DIMENSIONAL NERVOUS BREAKDOWN!

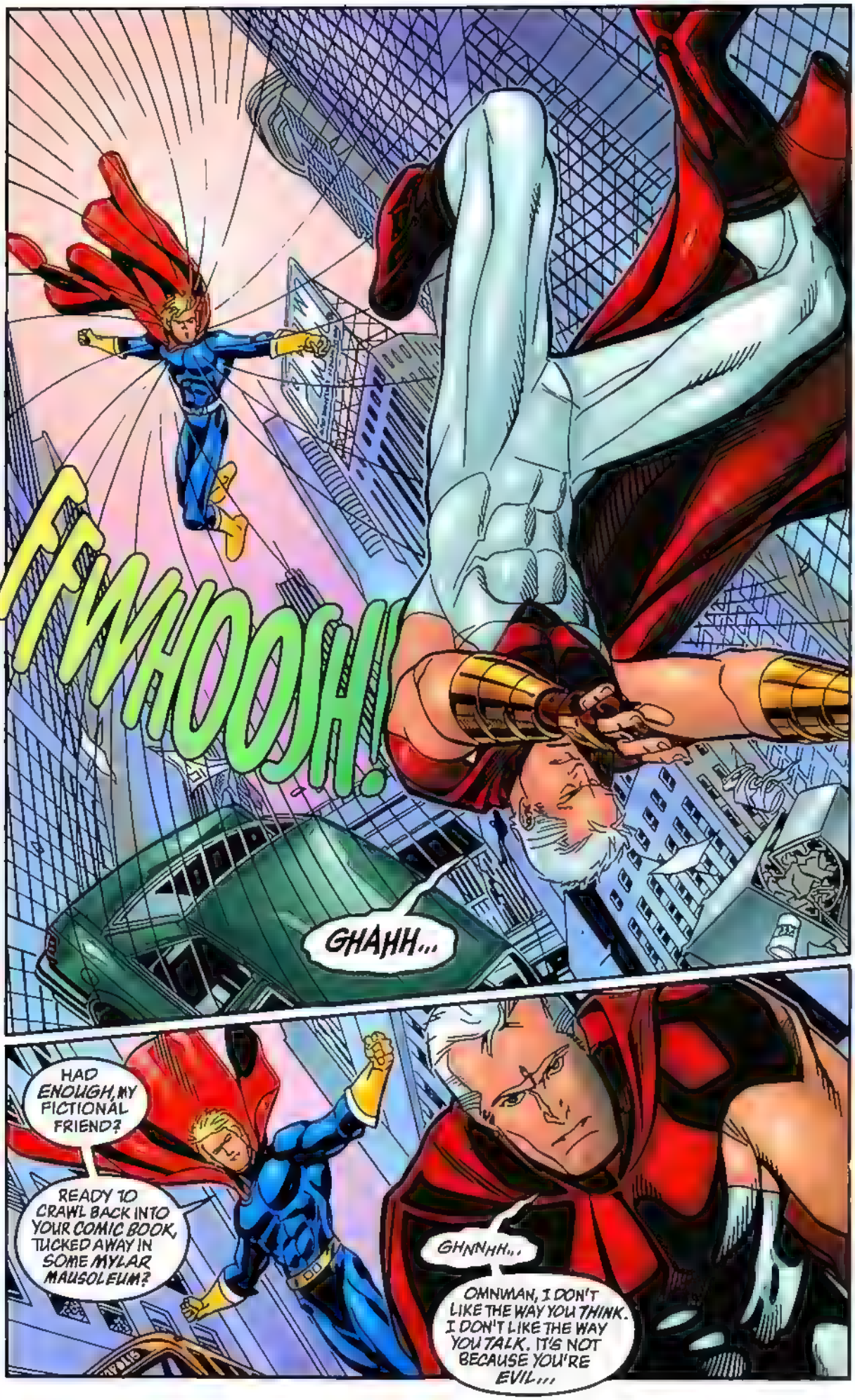
OH MY GOD, THIS IS GREAT! WHERE'S MY CAMERA?
B-BUT OMNIMAN ISN'T REAL! YOU'RE JUST A COMIC-BOOK CHARACTER!
OH, AND YOU'RE NOT? ISN'T THAT YOU ON THE COVER OF THAT COMIC YOU'RE HOLDING?

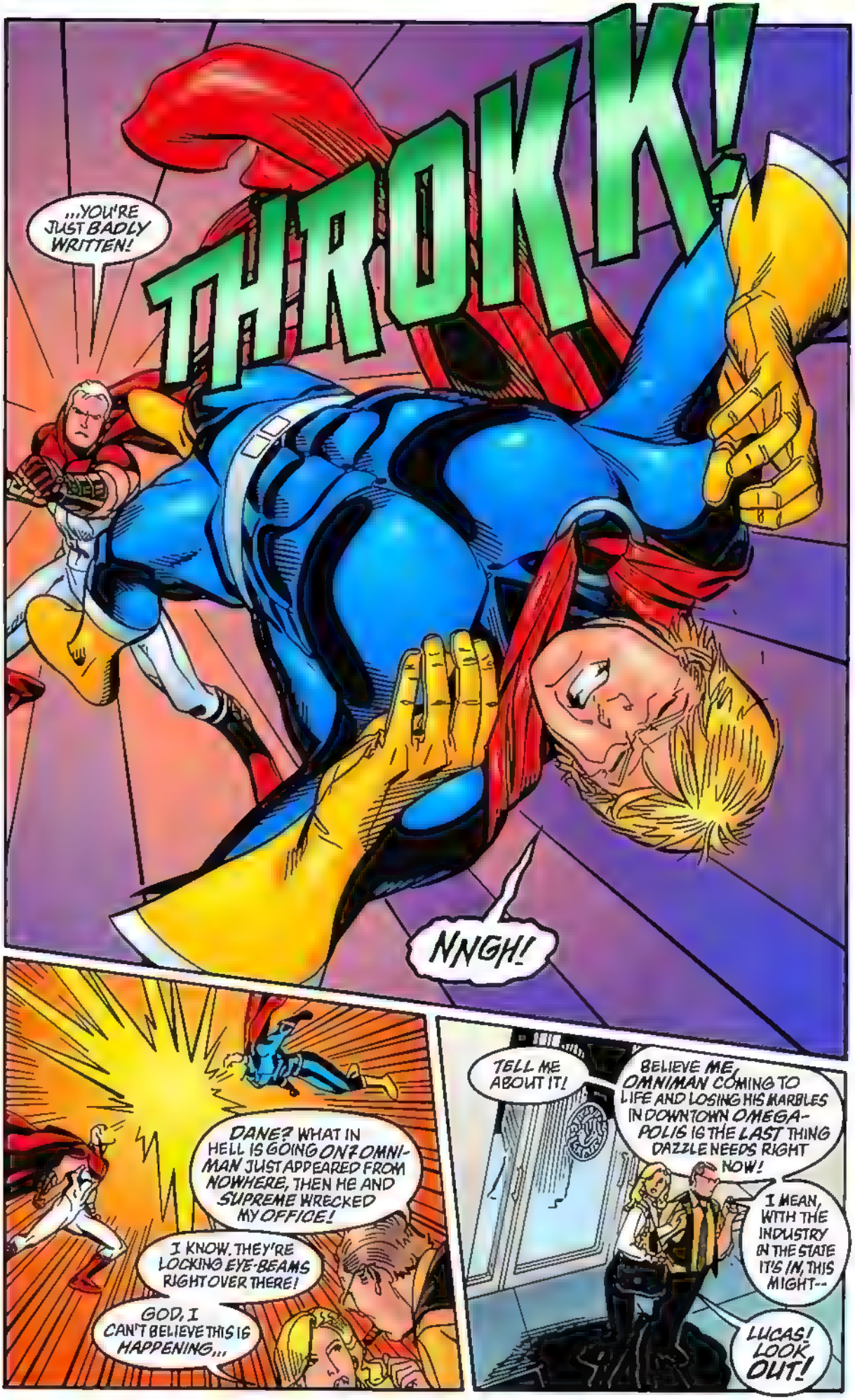
WELL, YES, BUT THIS IS SOME SORT OF MISTAKE. I'M NOT JUST A MADE-UP FANTASY HERO...
OH, COME ON! IN THAT OUTFIT? WHAT ARE YOU, THE MAILMAN?

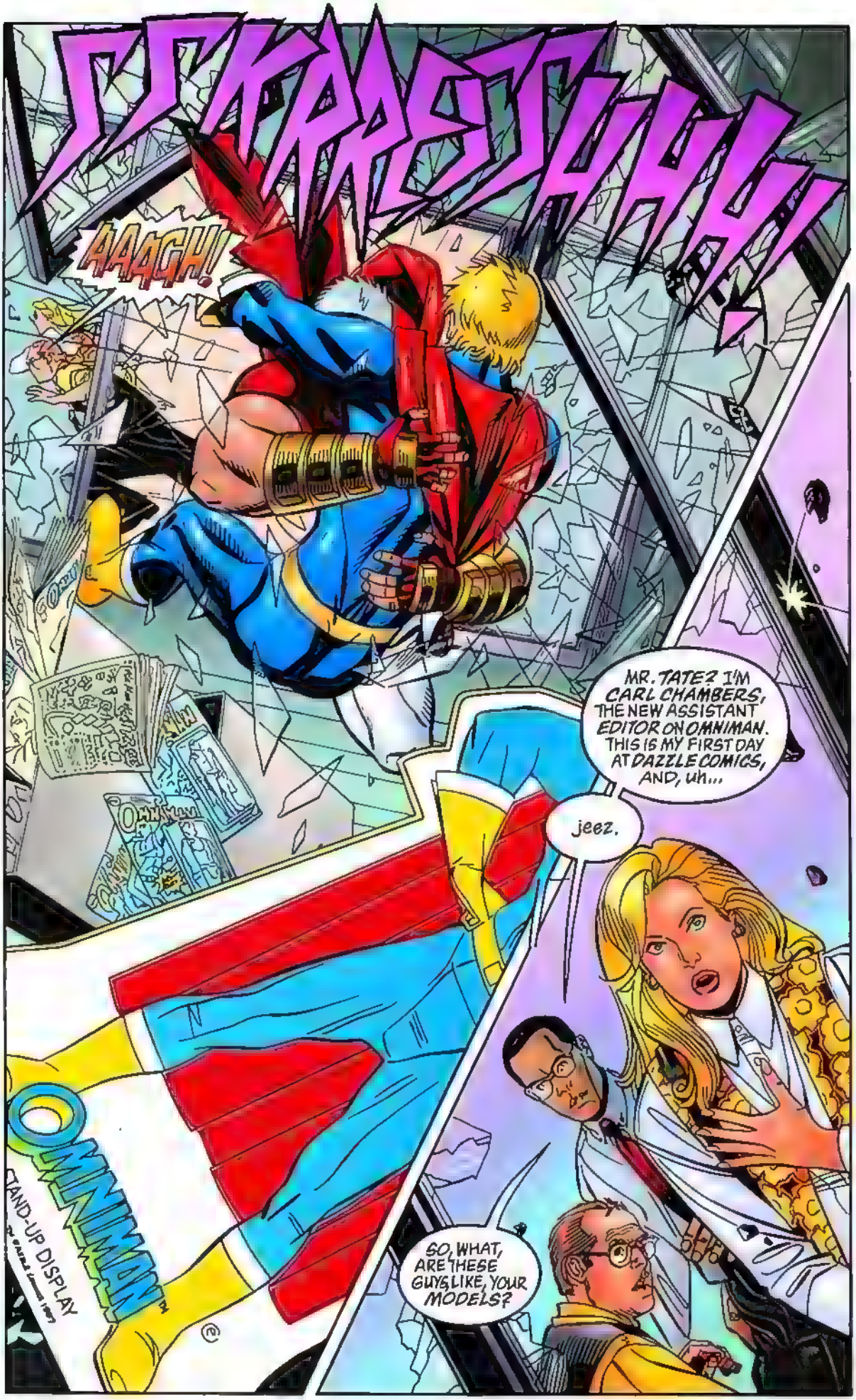
I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THIS.
A SIMPLE DEMONSTRATION OF SUPER-POWERS SHOULD SETTLE WHICH OF US IS THE GENUINE ARTICLE, AND WHICH IS THE DELUDED JERK IN THE HALLOWEEN COSTUME...

I COULDN'T AGREE MORE.
SHRROKK
KHOOMM
S-SUPREME?

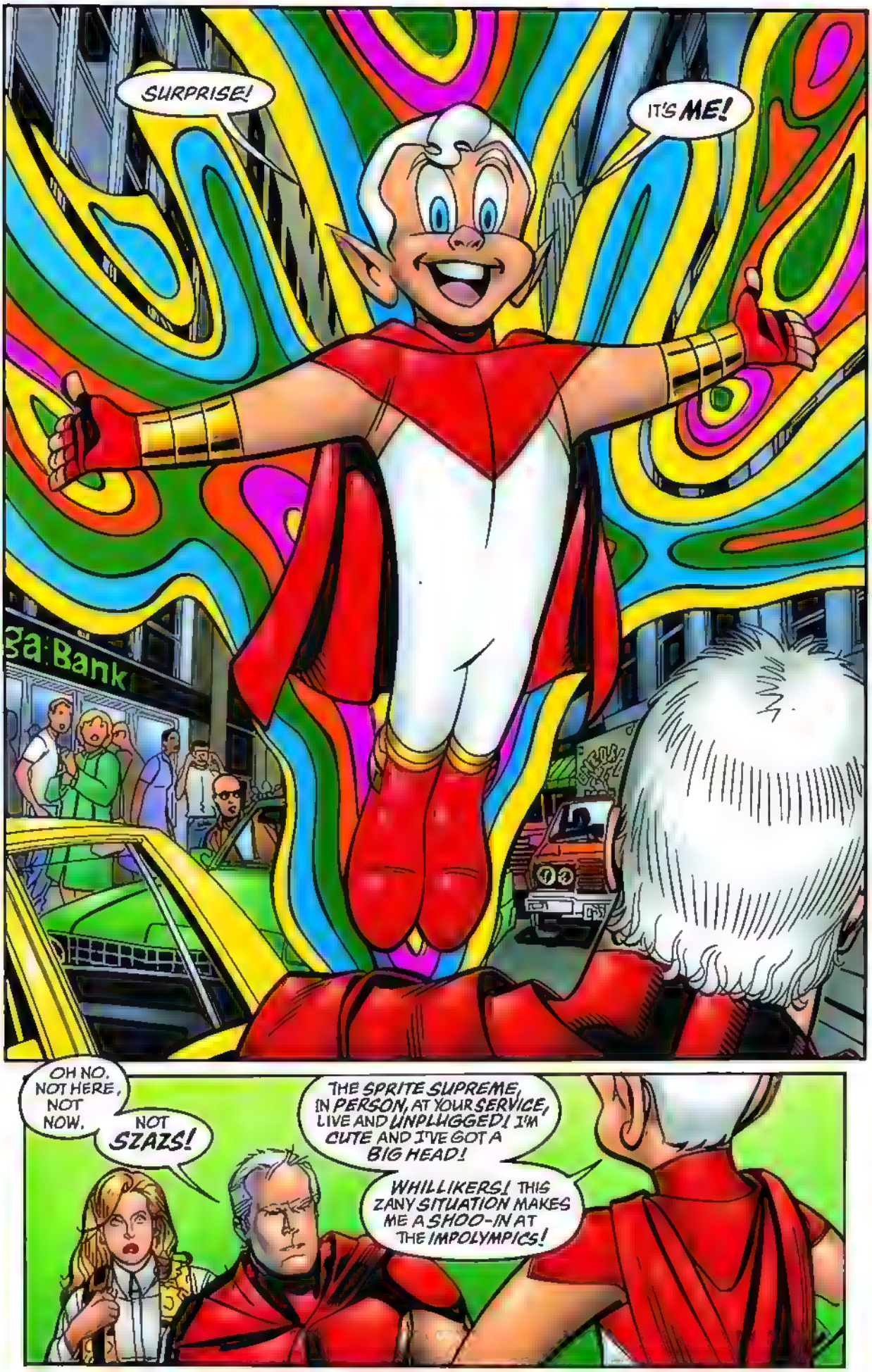
SUPREME, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? I SEE ETHAN GAVE YOU THE WEIRD COMIC THAT HAS YOU IN IT INSTEAD OF... uh...
OH MY GOD. I-IS THAT OMNIMAN UP THERE?
UNNGH. APPARENTLY SO. PLEASE TRY AND KEEP BACK FROM THE CONFLICT, MISS DANE, UNTIL I'VE FIGURED OUT WHAT'S HAPPENING HERE.
WELL, IF I WAS WRITING THIS, IT WOULD BE SOME REALITY-SWITCH GIMMICK, WHERE YOU END UP IN A COMIC BOOK AND OMNIMAN BECAME REAL...
HMM. PERHAPS I'D BETTER KEEP THIS COMIC SAFE UNTIL THIS IS OVER.
UNTIL THEN, MISS DANE, I HAVE WORK TO DO HERE.
I DON'T KNOW WHERE OMNIMAN CAME FROM, BUT I CAN SEND HIM BACK THERE.
MEANWHILE, YOU'D BE SAFER VACATING THE STREET, ALONG WITH EVERYONE ELSE!
BUT I'M AN OMNIMAN EXPERT! I KNOW ALL ABOUT HIM! HE HAS ALL THESE POWERS YOU DON'T HAVE, LIKE OMNI-VENTRILOQUISM, OMNI-EXHALATION...
"OMNI-EXHALATION"?
WHAT ON EARTH IS...


FWHOOSH!
GHAHH...
HAD ENOUGH, MY FICTIONAL FRIEND?
READY TO CRAWL BACK INTO YOUR COMIC BOOK, TUCKED AWAY IN SOME MYLAR MAUSOLEUM?
GHNNHH...
OMNIMAN, I DON'T LIKE THE WAY YOU THINK. I DON'T LIKE THE WAY YOU TALK. IT'S NOT BECAUSE YOU'RE EVIL...


...YOU'RE JUST BADLY WRITTEN!
THROK!
NNGH!
DANE? WHAT IN HELL IS GOING ON? OMNIMAN JUST APPEARED FROM NOWHERE, THEN HE AND SUPREME WRECKED MY OFFICE!
I KNOW. THEY'RE LOCKING EYE-BEAMS RIGHT OVER THERE!
GOD, I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS IS HAPPENING...
TELL ME ABOUT IT!
BELIEVE ME, OMNIMAN COMING TO LIFE AND LOSING HIS MARBLES IN DOWNTOWN OMEGA-POLIS IS THE LAST THING DAZZLE NEEDS RIGHT NOW!
I MEAN, WITH THE INDUSTRY IN THE STATE IT'S IN, THIS MIGHT--
LUCAS! LOOK OUT!


KRASH!
AAAGH!
MR. TATEZ I'M CARL CHAMBERS, THE NEW ASSISTANT EDITOR ON OMNIMAN. THIS IS MY FIRST DAY AT DAZZLE COMICS, AND, uh...
jeez.
SO, WHAT, ARE THESE GUYS LIKE, YOUR MODELS?
OMNIMAN
STAND-UP DISPLAY

BOY, THAT'S INCREDIBLE. I NEVER REALIZED...
I MEAN, I ALWAYS THOUGHT THE ARTWORK ON THESE CHARACTERS' ANATOMY WAS LUDICROUS, BUT THEY'RE ACTUALLY BUILT LIKE THAT!
AMAZING.
OKAY, LET'S TAKE THIS OUTSIDE...
...WHERE I CAN POUND YOU INTO OMNI-SENSIBILITY WITHOUT UPSETTING DAZZLE'S SHAREHOLDERS!
UFFF
OH, ISN'T THIS WONDERFUL? WHAT A TREMENDOUS PERFORMANCE!
THE JUDGES ARE BOUND TO AWARD ME A BRONZE FOR THIS...MAYBE EVEN A SILVER!
HUH? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? IN CASE YOU HADN'T NOTICED, I'M ABOUT TO PUT OUT YOUR...
...LIGHTS...

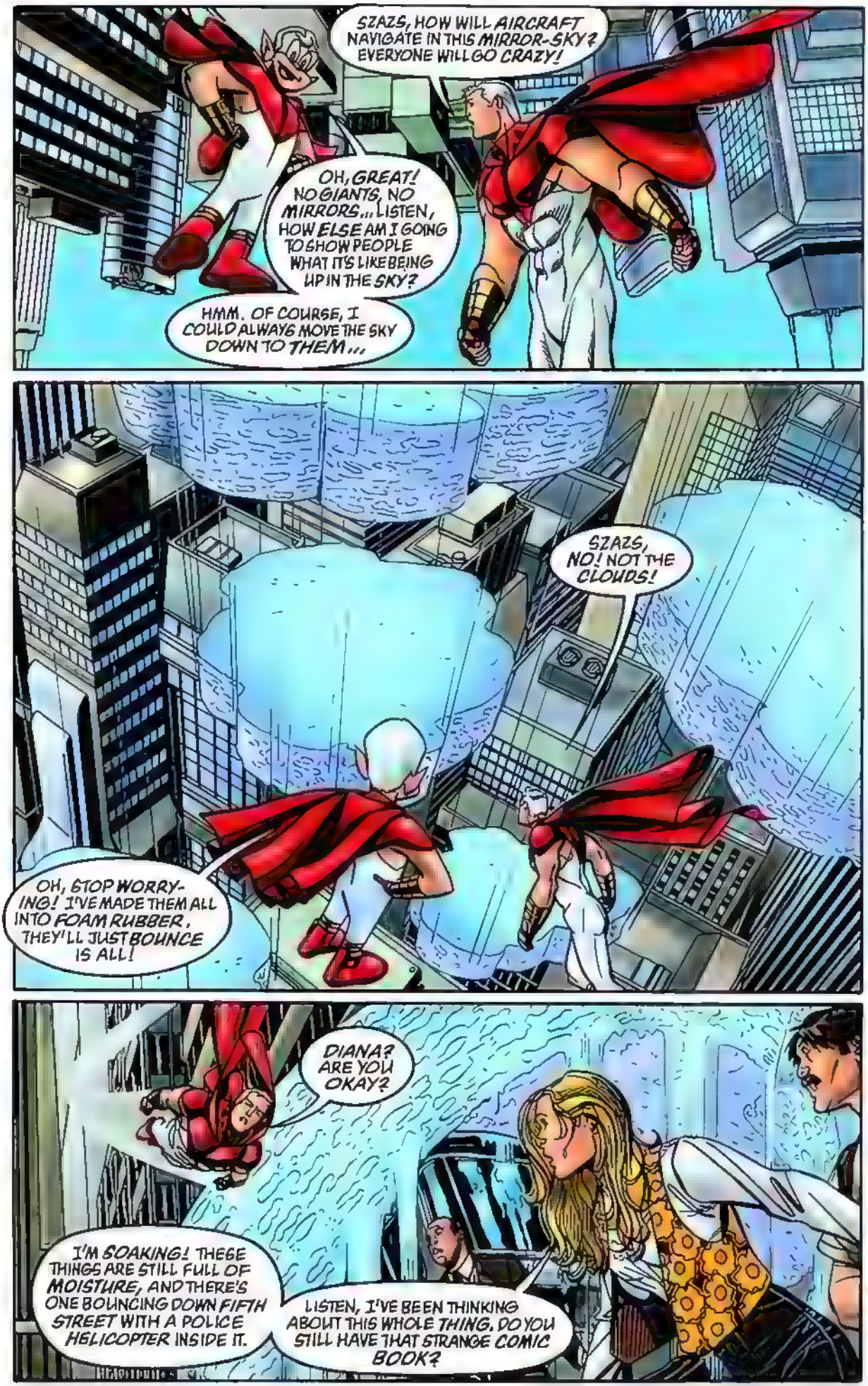

SURPRISE!
IT'S ME!
ga Bank
OH NO. NOT HERE, NOT NOW.
NOT SZAZS!
THE SPRITE SUPREME, IN PERSON, AT YOUR SERVICE, LIVE AND UNPLUGGED! I'M CUTE AND I'VE GOT A BIG HEAD!
WHILLIKERS! THIS ZANY SITUATION MAKES ME A SHOO-IN AT THE IMPOLYMPICS!

IMPOLYMPICS? WHAT ON EARTH IS IT, AND WHAT DOES IT MEAN?
DON'T ASK! THIS IS SZAZS, AND WHATEVER HE'S TALKING ABOUT, IT'S GOING TO BE SOMETHING SENSELESS AND DANGEROUS!
THE IMPOLYMPICS? SENSELESS? WHY, THE VERY IDEA OF THE NOTION OF THE NERVE! THE IMPOLYMPICS IS A NOBLE INSTITUTION...
"EVERY FOUR ZORGS, A DIFFERENT PRIME-NUMBERED DIMENSION WILL HOST THE CONTEST! THIS TIME, IT WAS THE NINETEENTH. ALL THE IMPS, SPRITES AND PIXIES COMPETE.
"THERE'S PROFESSOR NIGHTS ELFIN ANTAGONIST NITE MITE, THERE'S QYRK, THE SEA-SPRITE WHO USED TO ANNOY ROY ROMAN, AND A WHOLE BUNCH OF OTHERS..!!
THERE'S REALLY ONLY ONE EVENT, AND THAT'S SEEING WHICH OF US CAN COME UP WITH THE MOST IRRATIONAL AND POINTLESS STUNT!
I THOUGHT UP THIS WHOLE OMNIMAN/SUPREME ROUTINE JUST FOR OPENERS!
HA HA HA! I'VE GOT A TINY LITTLE BODY, AND EVERYBODY LOVES ME!
SZAZS, THIS HAS GONE QUITE FAR ENOUGH...
OH, SURE, FOR A BRONZE MEDAL, OR A SILVER, BUT THAT'S NOT ENOUGH TO REWARD ALL THOSE PATIENT WEEKS I SPENT IN NUISANCE TRAINING...

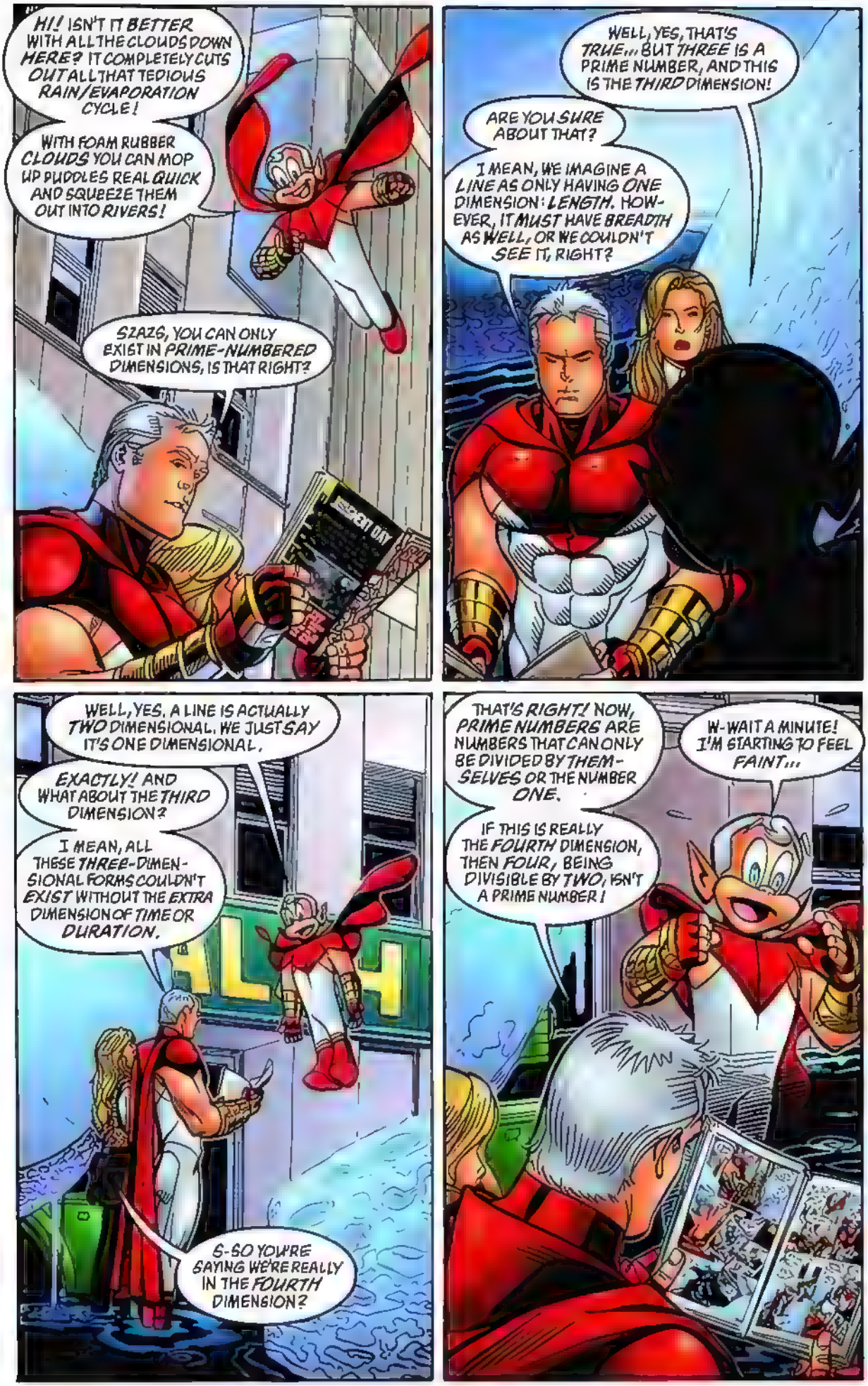
...THIS TIME, I'M GOING FOR GOLD!
HELLO, EVERYBODY! IT'S MEEE!
WHOOOOAH!
WH-WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO? HE'S ENORMOUS!
YES, I SPOTTED THAT. MY FIRST PRIORITY, MISS DANE, IS TO FLY YOU TO SAFETY...

...AFTER WHICH I CAN CONCENTRATE ON EVICTING SZAZS FROM THIS DI-MENSION!
CAN'T YOU TRY GETTING HIM TO SPEAK HIS NAME IN REVERSE OR SOMETHING? LET'S SEE: BACKWARDS, SZAZS WOULD BE...
OH. RIGHT.
FORGET IT.
SZAZS! STOP THIS AT ONCE!
EARTH'S CHANGED SINCE THE SIXTIES! NOBODY FINDS THIS KIND OF STUFF FUNNY OR APPEALING ANY MORE!
OF COURSE THEY DO! MY EYES ARE ALL PUPIL AND I SMELL LIKE A PLASTIC MODEL KIT!
BOY! THIS IS A NICE VIEW! I WISH EVERY-BODY COULD SEE THIS!
SZAZS, NO! DON'T MAKE EVERYONE IN OMEGAPOLIS INTO A GIANT! THEY HAD TO REBUILD AFTER YOU TRIED IT IN 1955...
WELL, YES...
POIT!
...BUT ONLY IN THREE DIMENSIONS! HOW HARD CAN THAT BE?
ANYWAY, GIANTS ARE BORING! LOOK! EVEN I'M NICER WHEN I'M LITTLE!
BESIDES, PART OF THE FUN OF BEING UP HERE IS SEEING ALL THE TINY PEOPLE DOWN THERE...
...AND IF THEY'RE ALL UP HERE SEEING, THERE'LL BE NOBODY DOWN THERE GETTING SEEN! THAT'S LOGIC!
CLEARLY, THERE'S ONLY ONE RATIONAL SOLUTION TO THIS WHOLE AERIAL-VIEW PROBLEM...
GREAT GANYMEDE...

...AND THAT'S TO SIMPLY BUFF UP THE SKY A LITTLE!

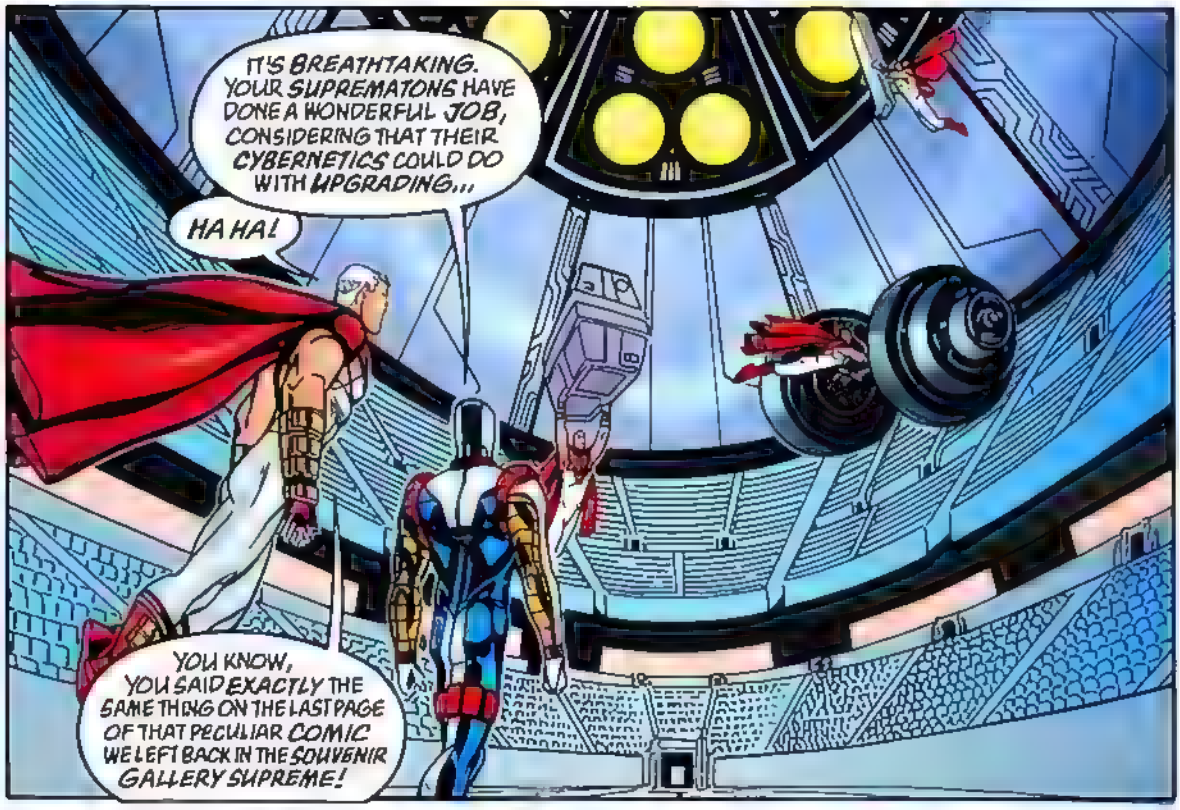

SZAZS, HOW WILL AIRCRAFT NAVIGATE IN THIS MIRROR-SKY? EVERYONE WILL GO CRAZY!
OH, GREAT! NO GIANTS, NO MIRRORS... LISTEN, HOW ELSE AM I GOING TO SHOW PEOPLE WHAT IT'S LIKE BEING UP IN THE SKY?
HMM. OF COURSE, I COULD ALWAYS MOVE THE SKY DOWN TO THEM...
SZAZS, NO! NOT THE CLOUDS!
OH, STOP WORRYING! I'VE MADE THEM ALL INTO FOAM RUBBER. THEY'LL JUST BOUNCE IS ALL!
DIANA? ARE YOU OKAY?
I'M SOAKING! THESE THINGS ARE STILL FULL OF MOISTURE, AND THERE'S ONE BOUNCING DOWN FIFTH STREET WITH A POLICE HELICOPTER INSIDE IT.
LISTEN, I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT THIS WHOLE THING. DO YOU STILL HAVE THAT STRANGE COMIC BOOK?

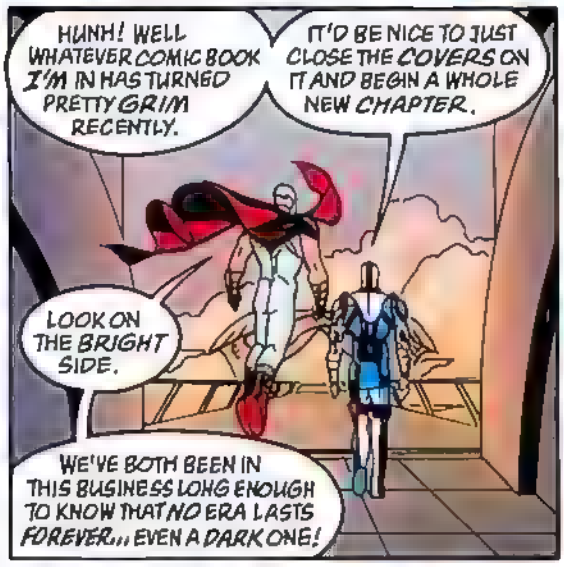
YOU MEAN THIS COPY OF SUPREME #53? SURE I DO, BUT WHAT USE IS THAT?
DON'T YOU SEE? IF THAT COMIC SOMEHOW CONTAINS THESE REAL EVENTS, THEN YOU CAN CHEAT!
YOU CAN FLIP TO THE END OF THE STORY AND FIND OUT HOW YOU DEFEAT SZAZS!
...AND SO ON.
Y-YOU'RE RIGHT! EVEN THIS PRECISE MOMENT IS IN HERE...
...AND RIGHT ACROSS THE PAGE HERE IT DEPICTS ME DEFEATING SZAZS WITH A LOGICAL PROPOSITION.
IT SHOWS ME JUST READING IT OUT OF THIS COMIC BOOK.
WELL, YOU'D BETTER HURRY, BECAUSE HERE COMES SZAZS...


HI! ISN'T IT BETTER WITH ALL THE CLOUDS DOWN HERE? IT COMPLETELY CUTS OUT ALL THAT TEDIOUS RAIN/EVAPORATION CYCLE!
WITH FOAM RUBBER CLOUDS YOU CAN MOP UP PUDDLES REAL QUICK AND SQUEEZE THEM OUT INTO RIVERS!
SZAZG, YOU CAN ONLY EXIST IN PRIME-NUMBERED DIMENSIONS, IS THAT RIGHT?
WELL, YES, THAT'S TRUE... BUT THREE IS A PRIME NUMBER, AND THIS IS THE THIRD DIMENSION!
ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THAT?
I MEAN, WE IMAGINE A LINE AS ONLY HAVING ONE DIMENSION: LENGTH. HOWEVER, IT MUST HAVE BREADTH AS WELL, OR WE COULDN'T SEE IT, RIGHT?
WELL, YES, A LINE IS ACTUALLY TWO DIMENSIONAL. WE JUST SAY IT'S ONE DIMENSIONAL.
EXACTLY! AND WHAT ABOUT THE THIRD DIMENSION?
I MEAN, ALL THESE THREE-DIMENSIONAL FORMS COULDN'T EXIST WITHOUT THE EXTRA DIMENSION OF TIME OR DURATION.
S-SO YOU'RE SAYING WE'RE REALLY IN THE FOURTH DIMENSION?
THAT'S RIGHT! NOW, PRIME NUMBERS ARE NUMBERS THAT CAN ONLY BE DIVIDED BY THEMSELVES OR THE NUMBER ONE.
IF THIS IS REALLY THE FOURTH DIMENSION, THEN FOUR, BEING DIVISIBLE BY TWO, ISN'T A PRIME NUMBER!
W-WAIT A MINUTE! I'M STARTING TO FEEL FAINT...

IN SUMMARY, THEN: YOU ONLY EXIST IN PRIME NUMBERED DIMENSIONS.
THIS DIMENSION, BEING IN ACTUALITY THE FOURTH DIMENSION, IS NOT A PRIME-NUMBERED DIMENSION.
THEREFORE, YOU DON'T EXIST.
NO! IT CAN'T BE! YOU'RE DISPROVING MY EXISTENCE WITH A SYLLOGISM SUPREME! I'M BECOMING COMPLETELY...
...UNBELIEVABLE...
PWINK!
H-HE'S GONE... AND SO HAVE THE FOAM-RUBBER CLOUDS!
HMM. THIS OMNIMAN MAKE-READY IS STILL AN ISSUE OF SUPREME... BUT THEN SZAZS USUALLY LEAVES AT LEAST ONE SOUVENIR OF HIS VISITS!
HOPEFULLY, THIS IS THE ONLY ONE! WE CAN CHECK WHEN I FLY YOU BACK TO THE DAZZLE OFFICES...

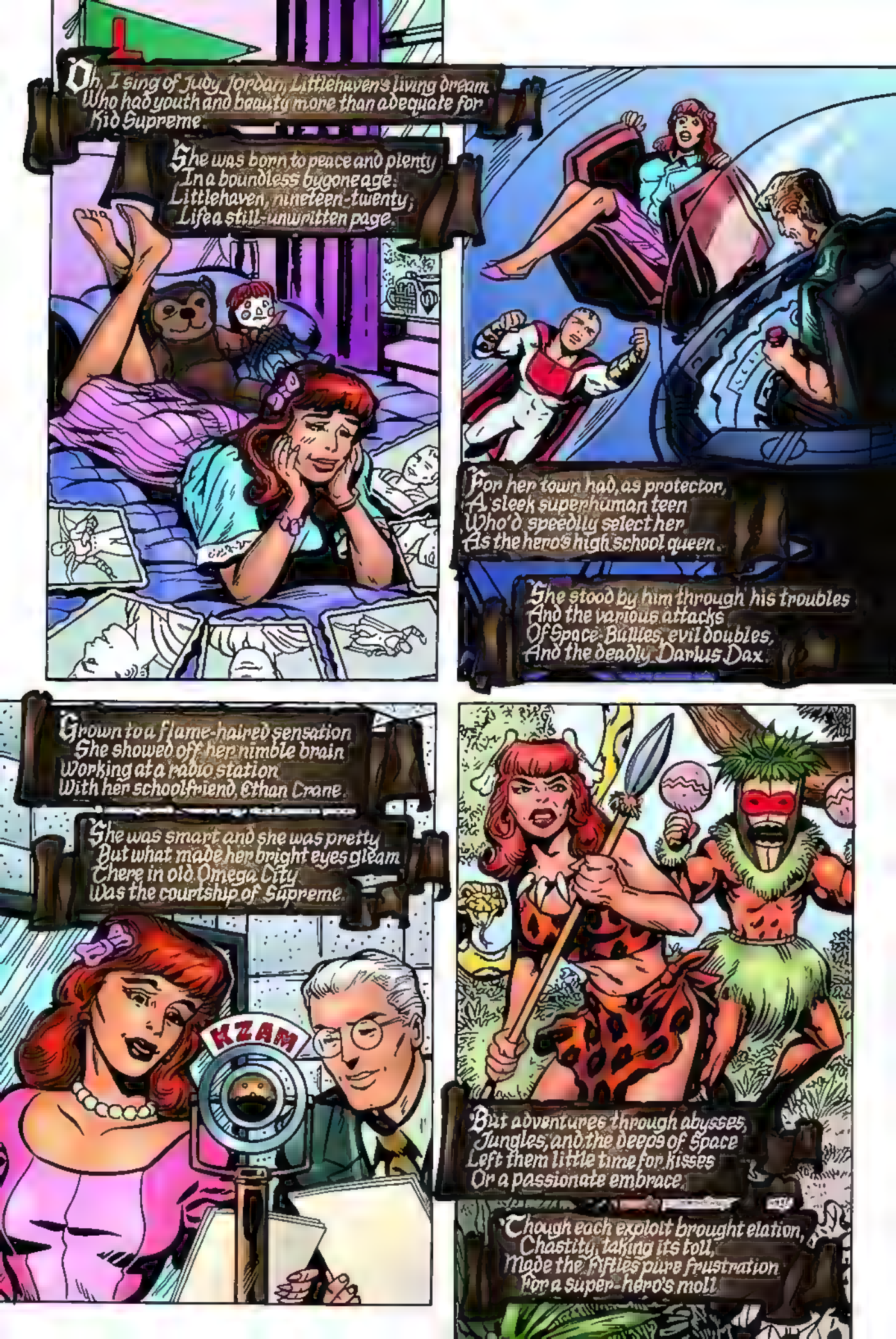
...AND THAT'S BASICALLY HOW IT HAPPENED. WHEN I CALLED DAZZLE'S PRINTERS, THEY SAID ONLY THIS ONE COPY OF OMNIMAN HAD BECOME A COPY OF SUPREME.
AND IT DIDN'T CHANGE BACK WHEN THE IMP VANISHED? THEN YOU'VE GOT AN INTERESTING MEMENTO.
YES, I HAVE. IT'S PROBABLY THE STRANGEST ITEM IN THE WHOLE SOUVENIR GALLERY...AND THAT'S SAYING SOMETHING!
HOW ARE YOUNGBLOOD COPING WITH THIS MURDER, INCIDENTALLY?
NOT WELL. I DON'T THINK YOU EVER MET RIPTIDE, BUT EVERYBODY LIKED HER. HER DEATH HAS SHAKEN THE TEAM BADLY.
WORSE, IT LOOKS LIKE KNIGHTSABRE IS THE GUILTY PARTY. IT'S GRIM, ETHAN. NOTHING LIKE THIS EVER HAPPENED WITH THE ALLIES, DID IT?
I'LL BE GLAD WHEN NEXT WEEK ARRIVES AND THE TRIAL'S OVER.
I HEARD THAT THE FISHERMAN'S WARD, TOBY KING, IS DEFENDING KNIGHTSABRE...
THAT'S RIGHT. IT SEEMS SKIPPER'S A LAWYER THESE DAYS.
GLORY TOLD ME SHE'D BEEN CALLED TO TESTIFY AND PROF. NIGHT'S OLD FLAME SHONE SHANE IS HANDLING THE PROSECUTION. THERE'LL BE QUITE A CROWD...
OH, I'M SURE THERE'LL BE ROOM, NOW MY STADIUM'S CONVERTED. COME AND TAKE A LOOK...


IT'S BREATHTAKING. YOUR SUPREMATONS HAVE DONE A WONDERFUL JOB, CONSIDERING THAT THEIR CYBERNETICS COULD DO WITH UPGRADING...
HA HA!
YOU KNOW, YOU SAID EXACTLY THE SAME THING ON THE LAST PAGE OF THAT PECULIAR COMIC WE LEFT BACK IN THE SOUVENIR GALLERY SUPREME!


HUNH! WELL WHATEVER COMIC BOOK I'M IN HAS TURNED PRETTY GRIM RECENTLY.
IT'D BE NICE TO JUST CLOSE THE COVERS ON IT AND BEGIN A WHOLE NEW CHAPTER.
LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE.
WE'VE BOTH BEEN IN THIS BUSINESS LONG ENOUGH TO KNOW THAT NO ERA LASTS FOREVER... EVEN A DARK ONE!

YOU'RE RIGHT. ANYWAY, THERE'S NO POINT WORRYING ABOUT WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN. I GUESS THE FUTURE IS ALREADY WRITTEN, RIGHT?
WELL, I'M NOT SURE ABOUT THAT, BUT JUDGING FROM THE COPY OF SUPREME THAT'S BACK INDOORS...

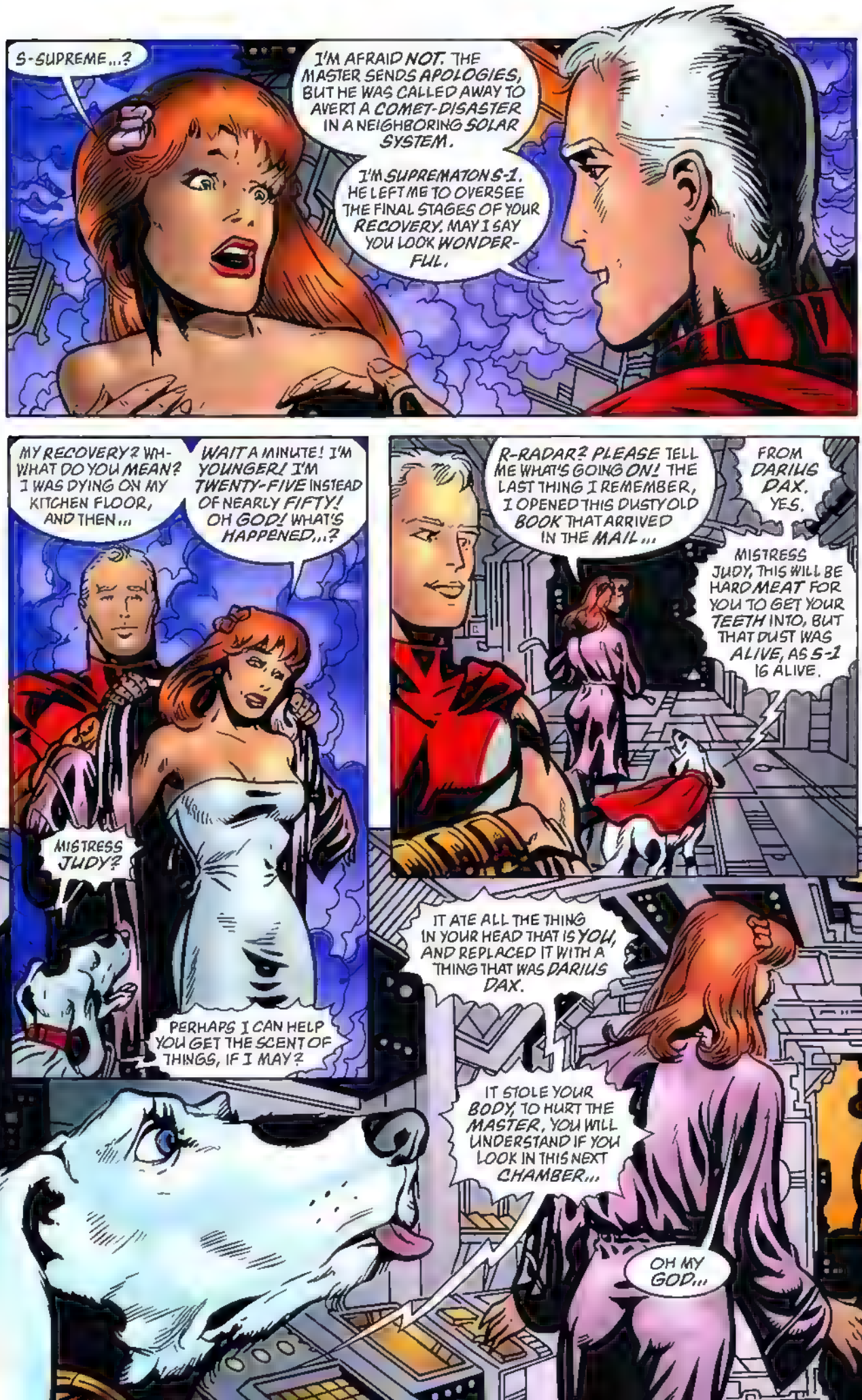
NEXT: The Ballad of Judy Jordan!


Oh, I sing of Judy Jordan, Littlehaven's living dream
Who had youth and beauty more than adequate for Kid Supreme.
She was born to peace and plenty
In a boundless bygone age:
Littlehaven, nineteen-twenty;
Life a still-unwritten page.
For her town had, as protector,
A sleek superhuman teen
Who'd speedily select her
As the hero's high school queen.
She stood by him through his troubles
And the various attacks
Of Space Bullies, evil doubles,
And the deadly Darius Dax.
Grown to a flame-haired sensation
She showed off her nimble brain
Working at a radio station
With her schoolfriend, Ethan Crane.
She was smart and she was pretty
But what made her bright eyes gleam
There in old Omega City
Was the courtship of Supreme.
KZAM
But adventures through abysses,
Jungles, and the deeps of Space
Left them little time for kisses
Or a passionate embrace.
Though each exploit brought elation,
Chastity, taking its toll,
Made the fifties pure frustration
For a super-hero's moll.

Forty eight, yet still a beauty
With few lines upon her face
She made faithfulness her duty
When Supreme left Earth for space.
To her small hometown returning
Early nineteen sixty-nine
She would think of him with yearning
But could only sit and pine.
The Daily Globe
SUPREME TO LEAVE EARTH!
TRIX
DARIUS DAX
LIFE AFTER DEATH
One day, easing her loneliness came unexpected mail
A parcel, whose return address was Omegapolis jail.
Curious, and beyond caring
(How some curious cats have died)
She tore at the wrapper, baring
The fine book concealed inside.
Her delight was interrupted
As she tried to read (but failed)
The inscription, dust erupted
In her face, and she inhaled.
In that cloud of heady spices
While she had not time to sneeze
Tiny microbe-sized devices
Stripped her of her faculties.
LIFE A
To Judy- Ke
me in your
thoughts fore
Thanks for
everything.
Darius
Day
They prevented neurons firing
Numb paralysis their goal
Then conducted the rewiring
Of poor Judy's mortal soul.
All her hopes, fears and rejections,
Dreams and memories wiped away.
Through progressive disconnections
On the kitchen floor she lay.

All identity was taken
Senses stolen one by one
She lay lonely and forsaken
As her dreams were all undone
The last thought, as night was breaking
And as consciousness grew dim
That she was capable of making
Was of him; only of him.
Judy Jordan's song was ended,
Led to naught but tragedy.
Not the ending she'd intended,
Not a fate she could foresee.
Yet it seemed, as life was fleeing
That the song, the great refrain
That was Judy Jordan's being
Missed a beat...
...and then began again.
...WORKING THIS TIME!
SHE SEEMS TO BE COMING ROUND...
WHHHH?

JUDY.
WELCOME BACK.
VEITCH
Part One: The Ballad of Judy Jordan


S-SUPREME...?
I'M AFRAID NOT. THE MASTER SENDS APOLOGIES, BUT HE WAS CALLED AWAY TO AVERT A COMET-DISASTER IN A NEIGHBORING SOLAR SYSTEM.
I'M SUPREMATON S-1. HE LEFT ME TO OVERSEE THE FINAL STAGES OF YOUR RECOVERY. MAY I SAY YOU LOOK WONDERFUL.
MY RECOVERY? WH-WHAT DO YOU MEAN? I WAS DYING ON MY KITCHEN FLOOR, AND THEN...
WAIT A MINUTE! I'M YOUNGER! I'M TWENTY-FIVE INSTEAD OF NEARLY FIFTY! OH GOD! WHAT'S HAPPENED...?
MISTRESS JUDY?
PERHAPS I CAN HELP YOU GET THE SCENT OF THINGS, IF I MAY?
R-RADAR? PLEASE TELL ME WHAT'S GOING ON! THE LAST THING I REMEMBER, I OPENED THIS DUSTY OLD BOOK THAT ARRIVED IN THE MAIL...
FROM DARIUS DAX. YES.
MISTRESS JUDY, THIS WILL BE HARD MEAT FOR YOU TO GET YOUR TEETH INTO, BUT THAT DUST WAS ALIVE, AS S-1 IS ALIVE.
IT ATE ALL THE THING IN YOUR HEAD THAT IS YOU, AND REPLACED IT WITH A THING THAT WAS DARIUS DAX.
IT STOLE YOUR BODY, TO HURT THE MASTER. YOU WILL UNDERSTAND IF YOU LOOK IN THIS NEXT CHAMBER...
OH MY GOD...

I-IS THAT ME? BUT I LOOK LIKE I'M IN MY SEVENTIES! I'M OLD!
MISTRESS, YOU MUST UNDERSTAND: THAT BOOK ARRIVED IN THE MAIL NEARLY THIRTY SUMMERS AGO. IT IS 1997 NOW.
1997? I...I CAN'T TAKE THIS IN...
THE MASTER RETURNED FROM SPACE ONLY RECENTLY. DAX HAD BEEN INHABITING YOUR BODY SINCE THE 1960'S.
DURING HIS ATTACK ON THE MASTER, HE ABANDONED YOUR BODY FOR ANOTHER.
SINCE YOUR OWN PERSONALITY HAD BEEN GNAWED AWAY BY THE DUST, THE BODY WAS LEFT EMPTY WHEN DAX DEPARTED, LIKE A CLEAN DOGBOWL.
LUCKILY, THE MASTER'S INSTRUMENTS FOUND FAINT ECHOES OF YOU THERE...
HE REBUILT YOUR MIND LIKE AN ELECTRIC JIG-SAW PUZZLE FROM THOSE TRACES.
HE THOUGHT YOU MIGHT PREFER A YOUNGER, FRISKIER BODY.
WH-WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? I-IF THAT'S MY BODY OVER THERE, THEN WHAT AM I?
YOU'RE A SUPREMATON.

I'M...?
Y-YOU MEAN THIS BODY IS A ROBOT?
THE VERY BEST ROBOT, MISTRESS, ONLY S-1 IS ANYWHERE NEAR AS ADVANCED. THE BODY IS STRONG, FAST AND NEARLY INDESTRUCTIBLE.
ALSO, IT CAN FLY, WE CAN PLAY CHASE IN THE CLOUDS OUTSIDE THE CITADEL!
COSTUME WORN BY JUDY JORDAN WHEN SHE TEMPORARILY BECAME SUPREME WOMAN 1959
BUT I'M A ROBOT! I'M JUST ANOTHER CITADEL EXHIBIT LIKE THIS ONE!
THIS ISN'T WHAT I WANTED, RADAR! I WANTED TO BE HIS WIFE, I WAS WAITING FOR HIM...
HE CAN'T LOVE ME AS A ROBOT. HE CAN'T LOVE ME AS AN OLD WOMAN. WHAT POINT DOES MY EXISTENCE HAVE?
YOU ARE HIS OLDEST, DEAREST FRIEND, MISTRESS. HE COULD NOT BEAR TO SEE YOU CONSIGNED TO OBLIVION.
I KNOW! I KNOW HE MEANT WELL, BUT DON'T YOU SEE?
I HAVE TO BE A REAL PERSON, WITH A REAL ROLE! I CAN'T JUST BE A... A... SOUVENIR OF MYSELF!
IT'S NO GOOD JUST HAVING AN EXISTENCE AFTER DEATH: I NEED TO HAVE A LIFE, AN IDENTITY, AND A PURPOSE.
RADAR, CAN I BE LEFT ALONE A WHILE? I NEED TIME TO THINK.
WORN BY JUDY JORDAN WHEN SHE TEMPORARILY BECAME SUPREME WOMAN

LATER:
WELL WHERE IN THE NAME OF GOD'S PAWS HAS SHE GONE?
I DON'T KNOW, MASTER RADAR. THE SCANNERS SHOW THAT SHE IS NOWHERE WITHIN THE CITADEL.
I--I HOPE SHE HAS NOT COME TO HARM...
THIS EXHIBIT IS MISSING, IT SEEMS SHE HAS SHED HER OLD COAT FOR A NEW ONE.
I WONDER WHERE SHE IS?
Judy Jordan, resurrected,
In a body made of steel
Finds it not what she'd expected;
Feels she isn't truly real.
A new life she's at the start of.
Will she triumph, or will she fail?
Find out in the second part of
This exciting three-part tale!

SUPREMA
Sister of SUPREME
DON'T WORRY, SUPREMA! OMEGAPOLIS DOESN'T NEED YOU TO CATCH THIS FALLING SPACE JUNK NOW THAT SUPER-JUDY'S ON THE JOB!
LEAPING LEPTONS! MY BROTHER'S EX-GIRLFRIEND HAS RETURNED AS A SURROGATE SUPREME!
Now Supreme's synthetic steady
As a heroine seeks kicks,
But is Omegapolis ready
For two sassy super-chicks?
Part Two: Duel of the Durable Damsels!
JUDY? WHAT ARE YOU DOING HANDLING THIS EMERGENCY? YOU DON'T HAVE TRAINING AS A SUPER-HEROINE!
WHAT'S UP, SUPREMA? WORRIED ABOUT THE COMPETITION?
OUR STORY OPENS AS THE GIRL OF OUR DREAMS RESPONDS TO REPORTS OF SPACE DEBRIS FALLING UPON OMEGAPOLIS...

BY SATURN'S SIGNET RING! THAT AMATEUR AVENGER HAS FORGOTTEN ABOUT THE FLIGHT PATHS UP THERE!
I MEAN, HOW MUCH TRAINING DO I NEED TO FLING THIS JUNK BACK INTO ORBIT WHERE IT BELONGS?
LUCKY I'M HERE TO GIVE THIS JEOPARDIZED JET A SHOVE SUPREMA OUT OF KARMA'S WAY...
...AFTER WHICH I INTEND TO GIVE THAT SUPERTUDY-COME-LATELY A PIECE OF MY MIND!
NOW YOU LISTEN TO ME, MISS TRAINEE TITAN! YOUR HALF-COCKED HEROICS JUST RISKED INNOCENT LIVES!
FRANKLY, JUDY, YOU DON'T HAVE WHAT IT TAKES AS A CHEESECAKE CHAMPION!
SUPREMA, I'M GETTING TIRED OF YOUR SNOTTINESS SUPREME! I'VE ALWAYS BEEN A CAREER GIRL, AND SUPER-HEROING IS MY NEW CAREER!
ANYWAY, YOU CAN'T CRITICIZE ME! YOU'VE BEEN WEARING THAT OUTFIT SINCE THE FIFTIES!

I HAVE NOT! WHY, I JUST THIS WEEK FOUND THIS OLD UNIFORM IN MY HYPER WARDROBE!
MIND YOU, THE LAST TIME I SAW YOUR COSTUME, IT WAS WITH THE OTHER ANTIQUES IN SUPREME'S SOUVENIR GALLERY!
OH, REALLY? WELL, I WASN'T ABOUT TO JOIN IT AS A KEEPSAKE FORMER GIRLFRIEND!
OH, SO HE INSTALLED YOUR REGIERED CONSCIOUSNESS IN A SUPREM-TON?
NOW GET LOST BEFORE I DEMONSTRATE WHAT MY NEW SUPREMATON BODY CAN DO!
JUDY SUPREMATONS ARE PRETTY DISPOSABLE. A BUNCH GET WRECKED EVERY FEW MONTHS, REGULAR AS CLOCKWORK...
(GIGGLE) NO OFFENSE INTENDED...
NONE TAKEN.

UNNGH...
HAD ENOUGH?
FACE IT, SUPREMA, OMEGAPOLIS HAS A NEW DAME DEFENDER NOW! YOU MAY AS WELL PACK YOUR CAPE AND GO!
WELL? WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO SAY FOR YOURSELF?
THAT
DRESS
WAS
CLEAN!
WHOOOOOOOOOOOOAH!

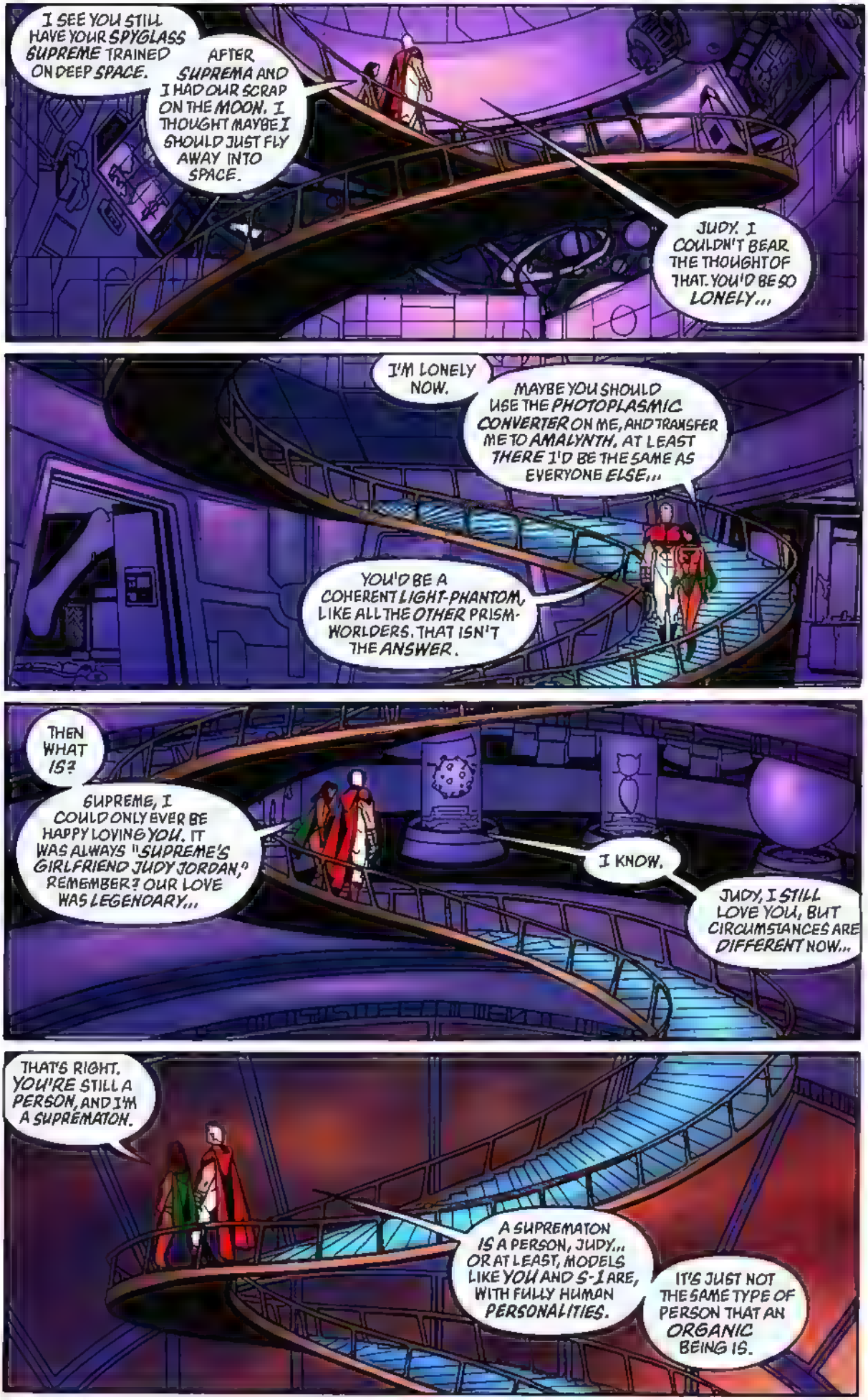
HMMM! I MUST CONFESS I HADN'T MEANT TO KNOCK HER QUITE THIS FAR!
STILL, AT LEAST HERE THERE'S NO CHANCE OF DAMAGE TO OMEGAPOLIS OR ITS CITIZENS!
:OOMPH:
IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I VISITED THE MOON...IN FACT, NOT SINCE MY TUSSLE WITH CLARE DE LUNE IN 1965!
I'D FORGOTTEN HOW LUMINOUS AND GHOSTLY EVERYTHING IS.
HOW STRANGE...
...AND SILENT...
...AND STILL...

OH NO! ME AND MY DURNED TEMPER! IT'S ALWAYS THE SAME WHEN I GET INTO A SNIT SUPREME!
I HOPE I HAVEN'T HURT HER!
OH...NO, SHE'S JUST STUNNED. I MUST HAVE SCRAMBLED HER CURCUITS A TAD!
POOR JUDY! I GUESS WAKING UP AFTER THIRTY YEARS IN A ROBOT BODY WOULD MAKE ANYBODY A LITTLE SKITTISH!
AS FOR ETHAN, I KNOW THE BIG GALOOT MEANT WELL, BUT HE MIGHT HAVE KNOWN JUDY WOULD WANT TO BE MORE THAN HIS POSSESSION!
I HOPE HIS STRENGTH SUPREME CAN MEND A BROKEN HEART...
...EVEN IF IT IS ONLY MADE OF SILICONE!
RELAX, S-1. SHE'S FINE. SHE JUST NEEDED A SMACK SUPREME TO BRING HER TO HER SENSES.
HELP ME GET HER INSIDE SO THAT WE CAN REVIVE HER.
AT ONCE, MISTRESS.
AHH! SO THERE SHE IS! YOU HAVE FOUND OUR STRAY, MISTRESS!
H-HAVE YOU DAMAGED HER, MISTRESS SUPREMA?

:OOOUUG:
WH-WHAT HIT ME? THE LAST THING I REMEMBER I WAS ON THE MOON, THEN BANG, ZOOM!
I'M AFRAID I HIT YOU, JUDY! I'M REALLY SORRY, BUT YOU WERE GETTING IN A STATE SUPREME!
ARE YOU OKAY NOW?
I-I GUESS SO.
I'M SORRY I CAUSED SO MUCH TROUBLE, SUPREMA. I DIDN'T MEAN TO LASH OUT AT YOU...
I JUST FELT SO FRUSTRATED AND ANGRY IS ALL.
I KNOW. BEING REGURRECTED AS A SUPREMATON MUST HAVE BEEN SUCH A SHOCK.
YES...BUT THAT ISN'T MY PROBLEM. MY PROBLEM IS THAT I LOVE SUPREME ...AND NOW HE CAN'T LOVE ME IN RETURN!
OH, POOR JUDY! YOU WAIT TILL I SEE THAT BIG GOOF!
BY TRYING TO HELP YOU, HE'S SIMPLY MADE YOU INTO A SPURNED SYNTHEZOID! IT'S ALL HIS FAULT!
THEN MAYBE IT'S TIME I FACED UP TO THAT.
HELLO, JUDY. LONG TIME NO SEE.
Just read on to learn the answer in our story's final third!

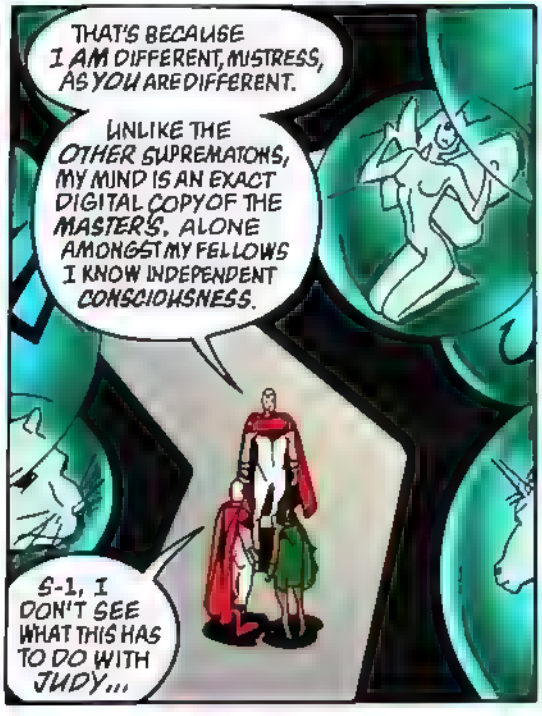
SUPREME
Part Three
Old Flames & New Sparks
Was their love a mere delusion?
Could their romance truly be?
Will our three-part tales conclusion
Tell of Judy's destiny?
THE MASTER AND MISTRESS JUDY HAVE BEEN SITTING IN THE ROOFGARDEN SINCE HE ARRIVED HOME.
SHE LOOKS SO SAD...
THEY BOTH DO. COME ON, S-1. LET'S SWITCH OFF THE MONITOR AND GIVE THEM SOME PRIVACY.
THEY HAVE THINGS TO TALK ABOUT.

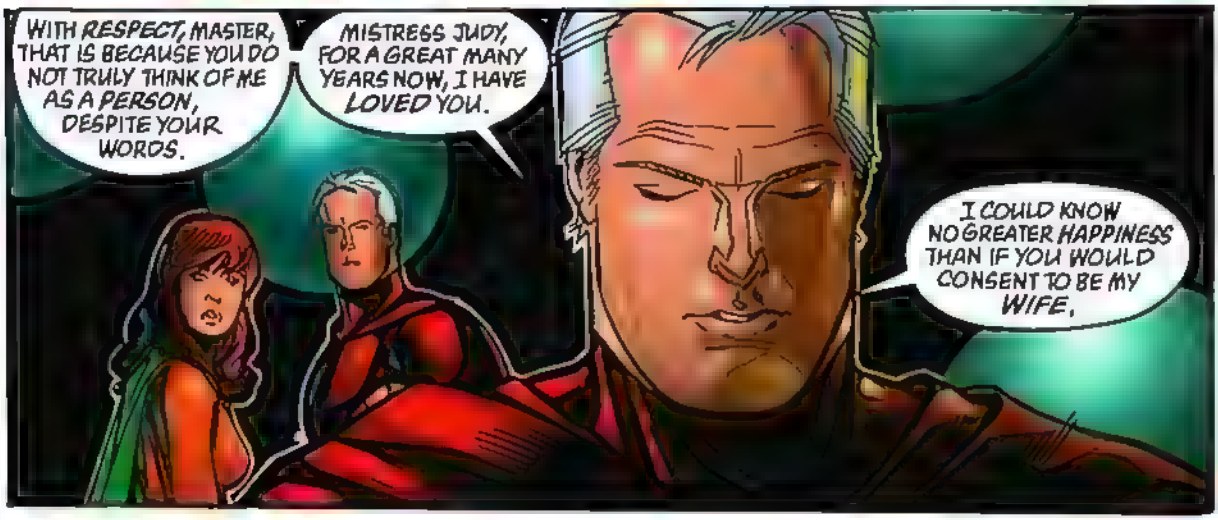
SO...
HOW DID IT GO WITH THE COMET DISASTER?
OH, PRETTY ROUTINE REALLY. I JUST PUSHED THE COMET INTO AN UNINHABITED SOLAR SYSTEM.
DON'T BE. AT LEAST YOUR ROBOT WAS VERY SWEET AND COURTEOUS.
JUDY, LISTEN, I'M SORRY I WASN'T HERE WHEN YOU AWOKE...
BUT THEN, THAT MAKES SENSE, DOESN'T IT? LEAVE ONE ROBOT TO DEAL WITH ANOTHER.
JUDY, PLEASE, DON'T BE LIKE THIS.
THE SUPREMATON BODY YOU HAVE IS MUCH MORE THAN JUST A ROBOT...
...AND MUCH LESS THAN A HUMAN BEING! WHAT'S THE POINT OF GIVING ME LIFE IF YOU CAN'T GIVE ME LOVE?
JUDY, I...
I DID WHAT I THOUGHT WAS RIGHT.
I KNOW.
I KNOW. YOU ALWAYS DO.
I'M NOT ANGRY AT YOU. IT'S JUST THIS RIDICULOUS SITUATION. OH SUPREME, WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO?
I DON'T KNOW.
COME ON... LET'S GO BACK DOWN INTO THE CITADEL.
IT'S CLOUDING OVER UP HERE, AND IT LOOKS LIKE RAIN...


I SEE YOU STILL HAVE YOUR SPYGLASS SUPREME TRAINED ON DEEP SPACE.
AFTER SUPREMA AND I HAD OUR SCRAP ON THE MOON, I THOUGHT MAYBE I SHOULD JUST FLY AWAY INTO SPACE.
JUDY, I COULDN'T BEAR THE THOUGHT OF THAT. YOU'D BE SO LONELY...
I'M LONELY NOW.
MAYBE YOU SHOULD USE THE PHOTOPLASMIC CONVERTER ON ME, AND TRANSFER ME TO AMALYNTH. AT LEAST THERE I'D BE THE SAME AS EVERYONE ELSE...
YOU'D BE A COHERENT LIGHT-PHANTOM, LIKE ALL THE OTHER PRISM-WORLDERS. THAT ISN'T THE ANSWER.
THEN WHAT IS?
SUPREME, I COULD ONLY EVER BE HAPPY LOVING YOU. IT WAS ALWAYS "SUPREME'S GIRLFRIEND JUDY JORDAN," REMEMBER? OUR LOVE WAS LEGENDARY...
I KNOW.
JUDY, I STILL LOVE YOU, BUT CIRCUMSTANCES ARE DIFFERENT NOW...
THAT'S RIGHT. YOU'RE STILL A PERSON, AND I'M A SUPREMATON.
A SUPREMATON IS A PERSON, JUDY... OR AT LEAST, MODELS LIKE YOU AND S-1 ARE, WITH FULLY HUMAN PERSONALITIES.
IT'S JUST NOT THE SAME TYPE OF PERSON THAT AN ORGANIC BEING IS.

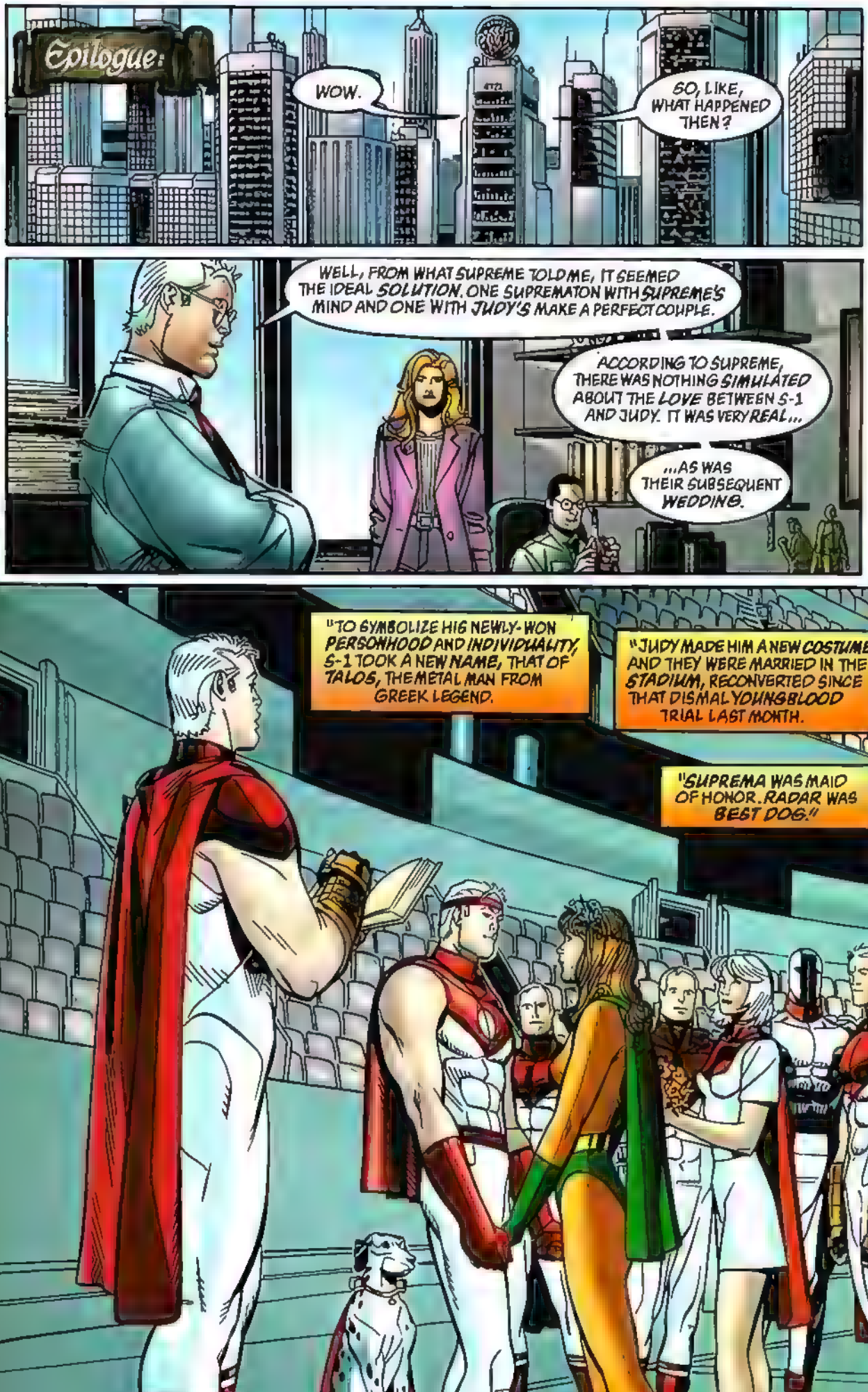
IT'S LIKE THE LIFE-FORMS IN MY IMAGINARY MENAGERIE. THEY'RE REAL, BUT NOT IN THE SAME WAY I AM...
I SEE. THEN THE GULF BETWEEN US IS AS WIDE AS THE CHASM BETWEEN MEN AND ANGELS...
MIGHT I BE PERMITTED TO SPEAK?

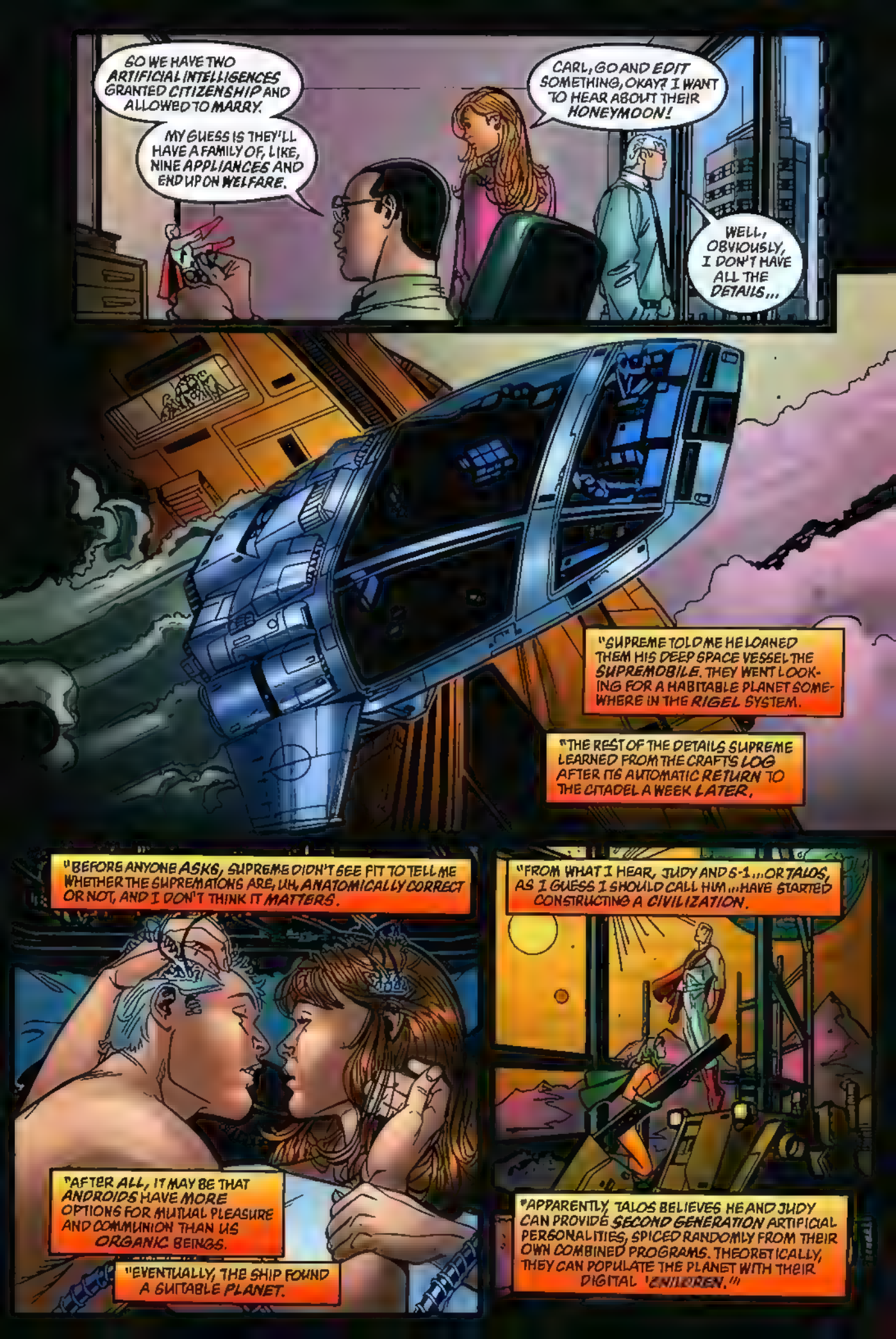
S-1? WHAT ARE YOU DOING DOWN HERE? MISTRESS JUDY AND I NEED SOME TIME ALONE...
MY APOLOGIES, MASTER, BUT I FELT PERHAPS THAT I MIGHT OFFER A SOLUTION TO YOUR DIFFICULTIES.
LET HIM SPEAK, MY LOVE. HE'S ALWAYS SEEMED DIFFERENT THAN YOUR OTHER SUPREMATONS.

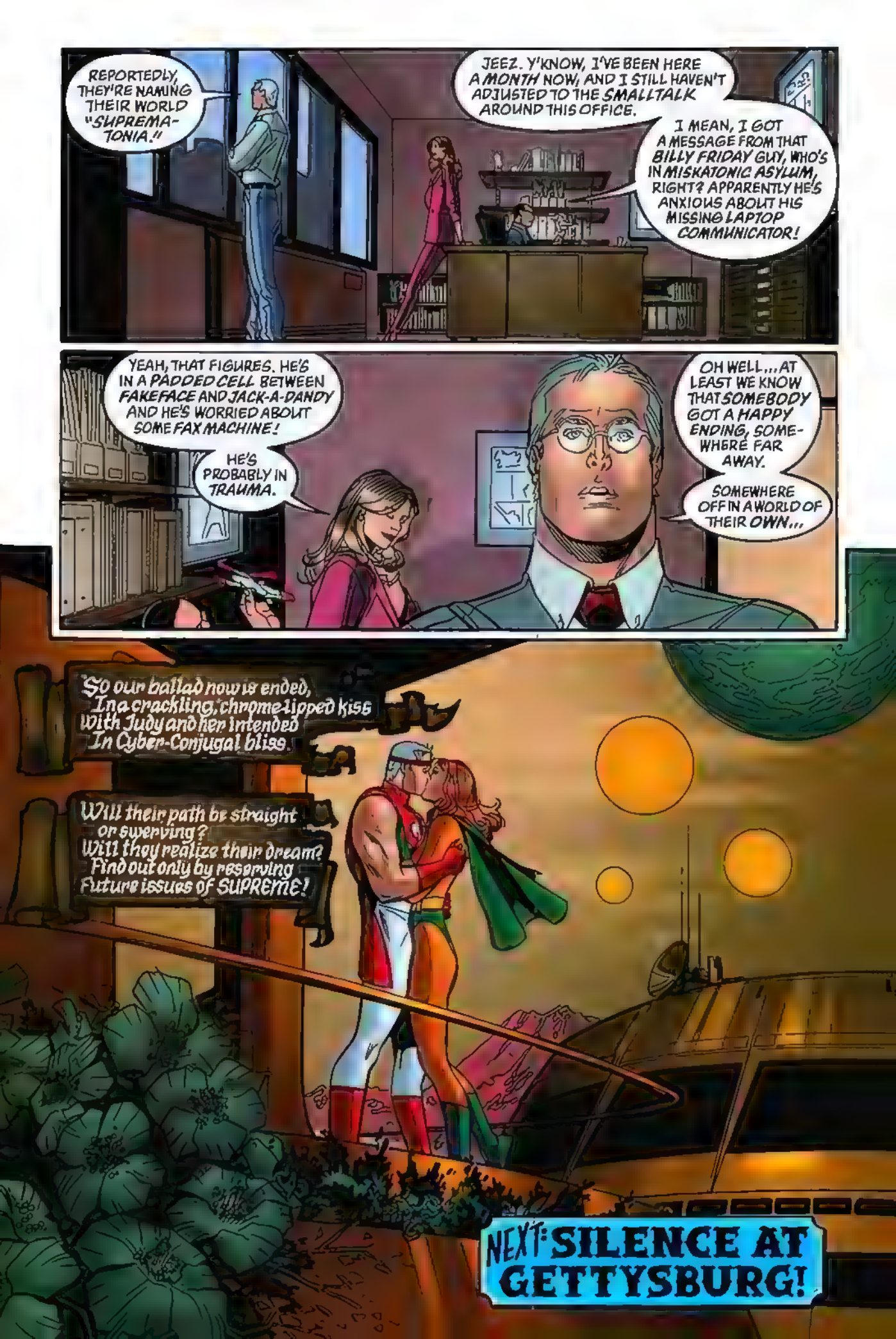

THAT'S BECAUSE I AM DIFFERENT, MISTRESS, AS YOU ARE DIFFERENT.
UNLIKE THE OTHER SUPREMATONS, MY MIND IS AN EXACT DIGITAL COPY OF THE MASTER'S. ALONE AMONGST MY FELLOWS I KNOW INDEPENDENT CONSCIOUSNESS.
S-1, I DON'T SEE WHAT THIS HAS TO DO WITH JUDY...


WITH RESPECT, MASTER, THAT IS BECAUSE YOU DO NOT TRULY THINK OF ME AS A PERSON, DESPITE YOUR WORDS.
MISTRESS JUDY, FOR A GREAT MANY YEARS NOW, I HAVE LOVED YOU.
I COULD KNOW NO GREATER HAPPINESS THAN IF YOU WOULD CONSENT TO BE MY WIFE.

S-1, WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? IS THIS SOME RELAPSE INTO YOUR BOUT OF MADNESS, OR ...?
SUPREME, SHUT UP. I WANT TO HEAR THIS.
THANK YOU, MISTRESS.
THE MASTER IS QUITE RIGHT TO REFER TO MY BOUT OF INSANITY, WHICH HAPPENED ALMOST A YEAR AGO NOW...
WHEN THE MASTER LEFT EARTH FOR SPACE IN 1968 AND MISTRESS SUPREMA VANISHED SOON AFTER, I FOOLISHLY ASSUMED HIS ROLE.
I HAD A "FAMILY" OF SUPREMATONS... INCLUDING A REPRODUCTION OF YOU, AS MY WIFE.
WHEN THE MASTER RETURNED LAST YEAR, WE FOUGHT. EVENTUALLY, HE REPROGRAMMED ME, REMOVING MY MALICE...
...BUT NOT MY EMOTIONS. HE DID NOT REMOVE THE LONGING THAT HAD FORCED ME INTO MY PITIFUL CHARADE.
HOW COULD HE, WHEN I AM A COPY OF ALL HE IS... INCLUDING HIS LOVE FOR YOU!
S-1, I DON'T UNDERSTAND...
I DO. SUPREME, COULD YOU LEAVE US NOW?

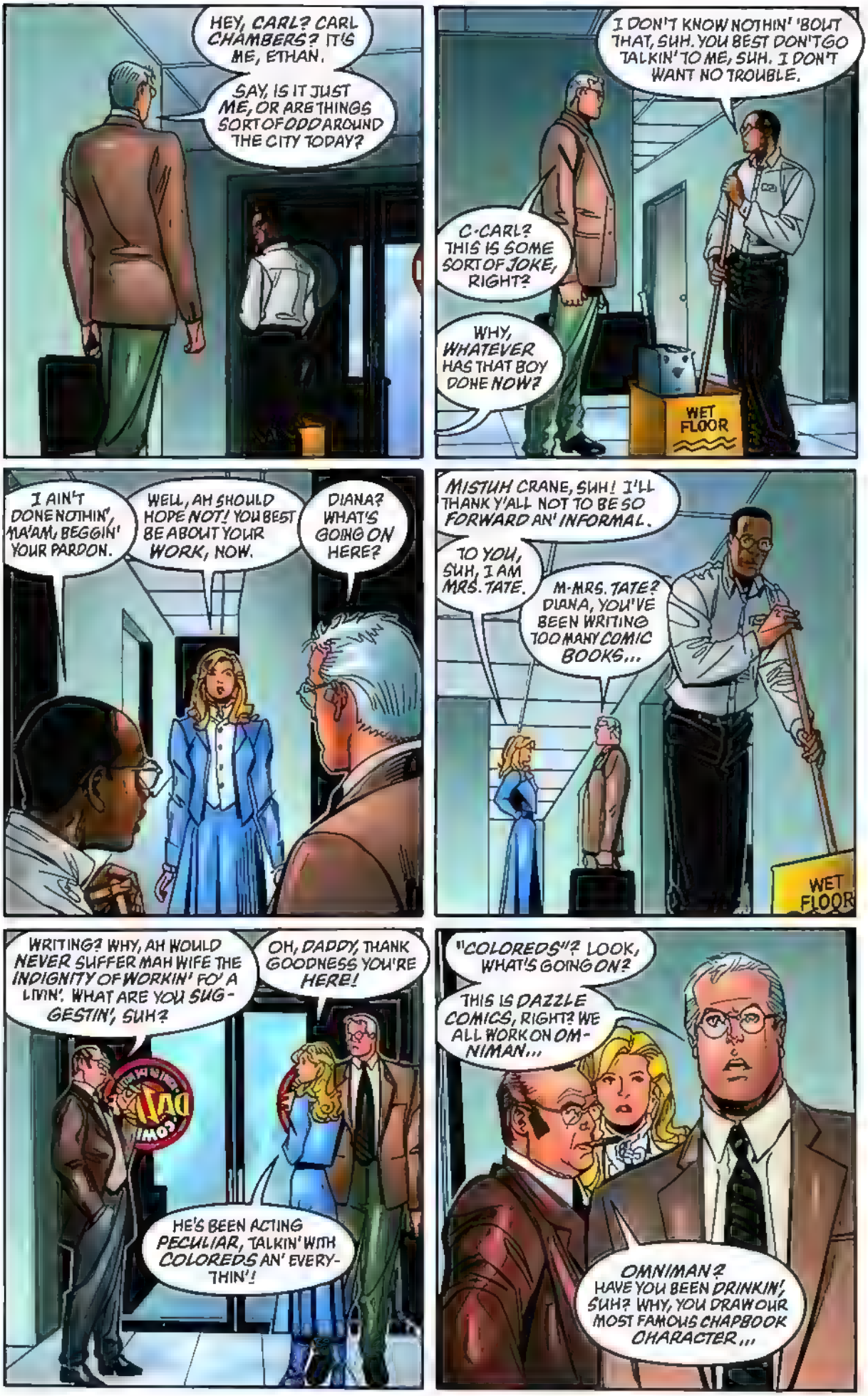

Epilogue:
WOW.
SO, LIKE, WHAT HAPPENED THEN?
WELL, FROM WHAT SUPREME TOLD ME, IT SEEMED THE IDEAL SOLUTION. ONE SUPREMATON WITH SUPREME'S MIND AND ONE WITH JUDY'S MAKE A PERFECT COUPLE.
ACCORDING TO SUPREME, THERE WAS NOTHING SIMULATED ABOUT THE LOVE BETWEEN S-1 AND JUDY. IT WAS VERY REAL...
...AS WAS THEIR SUBSEQUENT WEDDING.
"TO SYMBOLIZE HIS NEWLY-WON PERSONHOOD AND INDIVIDUALITY, S-1 TOOK A NEW NAME, THAT OF TALOS, THE METAL MAN FROM GREEK LEGEND.
"JUDY MADE HIM A NEW COSTUME, AND THEY WERE MARRIED IN THE STADIUM, RECONVERTED SINCE THAT DISMAL YOUNGBLOOD TRIAL LAST MONTH.
"SUPREMA WAS MAID OF HONOR. RADAR WAS BEST DOG!"


SO WE HAVE TWO ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCES GRANTED CITIZENSHIP AND ALLOWED TO MARRY.
MY GUESS IS THEY'LL HAVE A FAMILY OF, LIKE, NINE APPLIANCES AND END UP ON WELFARE.
CARL, GO AND EDIT SOMETHING, OKAY? I WANT TO HEAR ABOUT THEIR HONEYMOON!
WELL, OBVIOUSLY, I DON'T HAVE ALL THE DETAILS...
"SUPREME TOLD ME HE LOANED THEM HIS DEEP SPACE VESSEL THE SUPREMOBILE. THEY WENT LOOKING FOR A HABITABLE PLANET SOMEWHERE IN THE RIGEL SYSTEM.
"THE REST OF THE DETAILS SUPREME LEARNED FROM THE CRAFT'S LOG AFTER ITS AUTOMATIC RETURN TO THE CITADEL A WEEK LATER.
"BEFORE ANYONE ASKS, SUPREME DIDN'T SEE FIT TO TELL ME WHETHER THE SUPREMATONS ARE, UH, ANATOMICALLY CORRECT OR NOT, AND I DON'T THINK IT MATTERS.
"AFTER ALL, IT MAY BE THAT ANDROIDS HAVE MORE OPTIONS FOR MUTUAL PLEASURE AND COMMUNION THAN US ORGANIC BEINGS.
"EVENTUALLY, THE SHIP FOUND A SUITABLE PLANET.
"FROM WHAT I HEAR, JUDY AND 6-1...OR TALOS, AS I GUESS I SHOULD CALL HIM...HAVE STARTED CONSTRUCTING A CIVILIZATION.
"APPARENTLY, TALOS BELIEVES HE AND JUDY CAN PROVIDE SECOND GENERATION ARTIFICIAL PERSONALITIES, SPICED RANDOMLY FROM THEIR OWN COMBINED PROGRAMS. THEORETICALLY, THEY CAN POPULATE THE PLANET WITH THEIR DIGITAL 'CHILDREN.'"


REPORTEDLY, THEY'RE NAMING THEIR WORLD "SUPREMA-TONIA."
JEEZ. Y'KNOW, I'VE BEEN HERE A MONTH NOW, AND I STILL HAVEN'T ADJUSTED TO THE SMALLTALK AROUND THIS OFFICE.
I MEAN, I GOT A MESSAGE FROM THAT BILLY FRIDAY GUY, WHO'S IN MISKATONIC ASYLUM, RIGHT? APPARENTLY HE'S ANXIOUS ABOUT HIS MISSING LAPTOP COMMUNICATOR!
YEAH, THAT FIGURES. HE'S IN A PADDED CELL BETWEEN FAKEFACE AND JACK-A-DANDY AND HE'S WORRIED ABOUT SOME FAX MACHINE!
HE'S PROBABLY IN TRAUMA.
OH WELL... AT LEAST WE KNOW THAT SOMEBODY GOT A HAPPY ENDING, SOMEWHERE FAR AWAY.
SOMEWHERE OFF IN A WORLD OF THEIR OWN...
So our ballad now is ended, In a crackling, chrome-lipped kiss With Judy and her intended In Cyber-Conjugal bliss.
Will their path be straight or swerving? Will they realize their dream? Find out only by reserving Future issues of SUPREME!
NEXT: SILENCE AT GETTYSBURG!

...GOOD MORNING, LEEVILLE, IT'S SEVEN A.M. AND THIS IS RADIO K-ZAM BRINGING YOU "AN AMERICAN TRILOGY" FROM THE ALBUM "ELVIS AT SIXTY"...
7:00

202
WHITES ONLY
HAMMER LOCKE
DAZZLE COMICS
ting

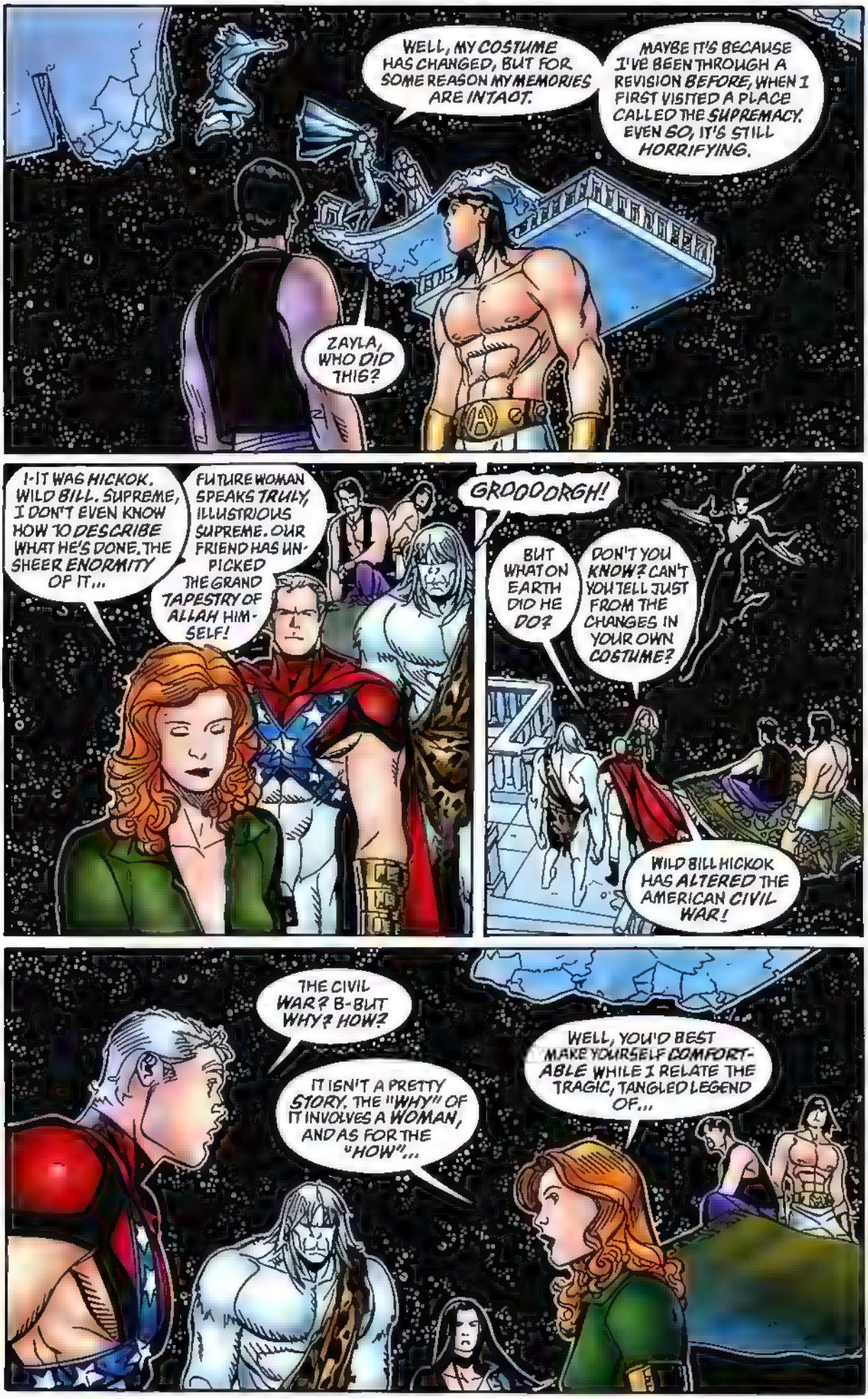

HEY, CARL? CARL CHAMBERS? IT'S ME, ETHAN.
SAY, IS IT JUST ME, OR ARE THINGS SORT OF ODD AROUND THE CITY TODAY?
I DON'T KNOW NOTHIN' 'BOUT THAT, SUH. YOU BEST DON'T GO TALKIN' TO ME, SUH. I DON'T WANT NO TROUBLE.
C-CARL? THIS IS SOME SORT OF JOKE, RIGHT?
WHY, WHATEVER HAS THAT BOY DONE NOW?
WET FLOOR
I AIN'T DONE NOTHIN', MA'AM, BEGGIN' YOUR PARDON.
WELL, AH SHOULD HOPE NOT! YOU BEST BE ABOUT YOUR WORK, NOW.
DIANA? WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
MISTUH CRANE, SUH! I'LL THANK Y'ALL NOT TO BE SO FORWARD AN' INFORMAL.
TO YOU, SUH, I AM MRS. TATE.
M-MRS. TATE? DIANA, YOU'VE BEEN WRITING TOO MANY COMIC BOOKS...
WET FLOOR
WRITING? WHY, AH WOULD NEVER SUFFER MAH WIFE THE INDIGNITY OF WORKIN' FO' A LIVIN'. WHAT ARE YOU SUGGESTIN', SUH?
OH, DADDY, THANK GOODNESS YOU'RE HERE!
HE'S BEEN ACTING PECULIAR, TALKIN' WITH COLOREDS AN' EVERYTHIN'!
"COLOREDS"? LOOK, WHAT'S GOING ON?
THIS IS DAZZLE COMICS, RIGHT? WE ALL WORK ON OMNIMAN...
OMNIMAN? HAVE YOU BEEN DRINKIN', SUH? WHY, YOU DRAW OUR MOST FAMOUS CHAPBOOK CHARACTER...

SUPREME
...BUT HIS NAME SURE AIN'T OMNIMAN!
THE KLANSMAN
SILENCE AT GETTYSBURG

"TH-THE KLANSMAN"?
SURE. THE CROSS-BURNING CRUSADER HIMSELF. YOU'VE BEEN DRAWING HIM NIGH ON SIX YEARS!
HAVE YOU GOT NEXT ISSUE'S PENCILS, WHERE HE BATTLES THE CARPETBAGGER?
DADDY, AHM GOIN' SHOPPIN' NOW, SO'S I CAN BE HOME TO SEE PRESIDENT HELMS' SPEECH ON THE T.V....
NEW COL. CRUEL HOMINY BARS
KLANSMAN
PRESIDENT HELMS?
LISTEN, I, UH... I HAVE TO GO CHECK SOMETHING OUT. I'LL SEE YOU AT THE NEXT TORCHLIGHT RALLY OR SOMETHING...
SUCH AWFUL MANNERS! WHY, SUH, AH DECLARE, YOU DO NOT HAVE THE LEAST TOUCH O' BREEDIN' OR GENTILITY!
WHAT IN NEWTON'S NAME IS HAPPENING? AND WHY WAS THIS UNIFORM IN MY CLOSET THIS MORNING?
I HAVE TO HOPE THERE'S SOME ANSWER TO THIS MADNESS UP IN MY CITADEL...
LOOK! IT'S THE SUPREMACIST! HE MUST BE FLYING OVER TO STUART CITY TO TEAM UP WITH WHITE NIGHT AND HIS PARTNER DIXIE!
...BECAUSE I CERTAINLY CAN'T MAKE SENSE OF ANYTHING DOWN HERE!
PROBABLY THE INTEGRATOR HAS STRUCK AGAIN! YAY! GO TO IT, SUPREMACIST!

EVEN MY CITADEL IS DIFFERENT! THIS REAR OBSERVATION PLATFORM LOOKS MORE LIKE A VERANDAH...
SAINTS BE PRAISED. THE MASS'ER IS HOME.
SUFFERING SCHRÖDINGER! WHO ARE YOU?
WHY, MERCY SAKES. DON'T YOU BE FOOLIN' WITH ME NOW, MASS'ER.
I'M YOUR FAITHFUL RO-BOY, R-1.
DON'T YOU BE WANTING YOUR MINT-JULEP-SUPREME, MASS'ER?
I DONE FIXED IT FOR YOU SPECIAL.
THIS IS NIGHTMARISH! EVEN THE EXHIBITS IN THIS GALLERY ARE FROM ADVENTURES I DON'T REMEMBER!
REALITY AND HISTORY HAVE CHANGED COMPLETELY...
...SO MAYBE I CAN GET SOME PERSPECTIVE FROM A POINT OUTSIDE HISTORY, LIKE HERE IN THE LEAGUE OF INFINITY'S TIME TOWER!
S-SUPREME...?

SUPREME, IS IT YOU? Y-YOUR COSTUME... YOU LOOK SO DIFFERENT...
ZAYLA?
BY THE MERCIFUL MAGELLANIC CLOUD, WHAT'S HAPPENED TO EVERYTHING?
I-IT'S OUR FAULT. ONE OF THE LEAGUE HAS...H-HAS BETRAYED OUR OATH OF INFINITY.
HE'S ALTERED TIME, AND HISTORY HAS COLLAPSED UPON ITSELF. W-WE WERE INSIDE THE TOWER WHEN IT BUCKLED AND RUPTURED...
AYE. THUS WE CAN REMEMBER THE TRUE HISTORY, BEFORE TIME WAS REVISED... BUT WHAT OF YOURSELF, PEARL PARAGON?


WELL, MY COSTUME HAS CHANGED, BUT FOR SOME REASON MY MEMORIES ARE INTACT.
MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE I'VE BEEN THROUGH A REVISION BEFORE, WHEN I FIRST VISITED A PLACE CALLED THE SUPREMACY. EVEN SO, IT'S STILL HORRIFYING.
ZAYLA, WHO DID THIS?
I-IT WAS HICKOK. WILD BILL. SUPREME, I DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW TO DESCRIBE WHAT HE'S DONE. THE SHEER ENORMITY OF IT...
FUTURE WOMAN SPEAKS TRULY, ILLUSTRIOUS SUPREME. OUR FRIEND HAS UNPICKED THE GRAND TAPESTRY OF ALLAH HIMSELF!
GROOOORGH!
BUT WHAT ON EARTH DID HE DO?
DON'T YOU KNOW? CAN'T YOU TELL JUST FROM THE CHANGES IN YOUR OWN COSTUME?
WILD BILL HICKOK HAS ALTERED THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR!
THE CIVIL WAR? B-BUT WHY? HOW?
IT ISN'T A PRETTY STORY. THE "WHY" OF IT INVOLVES A WOMAN, AND AS FOR THE "HOW"...
WELL, YOU'D BEST MAKE YOURSELF COMFORTABLE WHILE I RELATE THE TRAGIC, TANGLED LEGEND OF...

...WILD BILL HICKOK
King of the Kansas Gunslingers!

"BORN IN 1837, YOUNG JAMES BUTLER HICKOK WAS JUST TWENTY-FOUR YEARS OLD WHEN CIVIL WAR BROKE OUT.
"FIGHTING FOR THE NORTH AS A SCOUT AND SPY IN MISSOURI AND ARKANSAS HIS LONG AUBURN HAIR AND SPECTACULAR GUNFIGHTING SKILLS BECAME LEGENDARY.
"THEY CALLED HIM WILD BILL."

"AFTER THE WAR, HICKOK BECAME MARSHAL OF ABILENE IN 1871.
"TALL AND ELEGANT HE'D PATROL, CASUALLY STROLLING DOWN THE CENTER OF ABILENE'S MAIN STREET, TEXAS STREET, HIS IVORY-HANDLED, SILVER-MOUNTED PISTOLS AT HIS HIP.
"MOST OF THE COWBOYS IN THOSE TRAIL TOWNS THEN WERE TEXANS, OLD CONFEDERATES THAT BILL HAD FOUGHT AGAINST NOT MANY YEARS BEFORE.
"HE WAS REMARKABLY SYMPATHETIC TO THEM, ALLOWING THEM TO WEAR THEIR GUNS IN TOWN AND EVEN PLAYING CARDS WITH THEM DOWN AT THE ALAMO SALOON.
"THEY ALL RESPECTED HIM.
"EVEN THE OUTLAW JOHN WESLEY HARDIN LAUGHED WHEN AN ENEMY OF HICKOK'S DESCRIBED THE MARSHAL AS ANTI-SOUTHERN, HOPING TO SPUR ANIMOSITY BETWEEN THE TWO.
"HARDIN ALLEGEDLY SAID 'IF WILD BILL NEEDS KILLING, WHY DON'T YOU DO IT YOURSELF?' LATER, HE AND HICKOK BECAME CLOSE FRIENDS.
"HICKOK CALLED HARDIN 'LITTLE ARKANSAW'.
"OF COURSE, THAT'S NOT TO SAY BILL DIDN'T HAVE HIS WEAKNESSES."

"HER NAME WAS JESSIE HAZEL, AND SHE WAS A DANCE-HALL GIRL. HICKOK WAS INFATUATED WITH HER
"UNFORTUNATELY, SO WAS ONE PHIL COE, CO-OWNER OF THE BULL'S HEAD TAVERN WITH BEN THOMSON, WHO'D TRIED TO SET JOHN HARDIN AGAINST HICKOK
"BOTH MEN HATED
"RIDICULOUSLY, THE FEUD STEMMED FROM WHEN COE AND THOMSON HAS A RAMPANT BULL PAINTED OUTSIDE THEIR SALOON. MARSHAL HICKOK ERASED ITS MORE OFFENSIVE PARTS HIMSELF
"NOW COE AND HICKOK LOVED THE SAME WOMAN. SOMETHING HAD TO GIVE. ONE NIGHT, HICKOK ACCUSED COE OF CHEATING AT CARDS.
"IN THE ENSUING EXPLOSION OF VIOLENCE, COE DIDN'T STAND A CHANCE. UNLIKE MOST GUN-FIGHTERS, BILL HICKOK'S REPUTATION DID NOT EXAGGERATE.
"COE DIED. SO DID A COUPLE OF HIS MEN
"SO DID ONE OF BILL'S DEPUTIES, MIKE WILLIAMS, WHOSE ONLY CRIME WAS TO BE STANDING IN THE WAY WHEN BILL GOT WILD
"MAYBE SOMETHING SNAPPED INSIDE BILL WHEN HE REALIZED WHAT HE'D DONE
"HE WENT BERSERK AND DROVE ALL THE COWBOYS OUT OF ABILENE THAT VERY NIGHT. AFTER THAT, HE CARRIED A SAWN-OFF SHOTGUN ON HIS PATROLS."

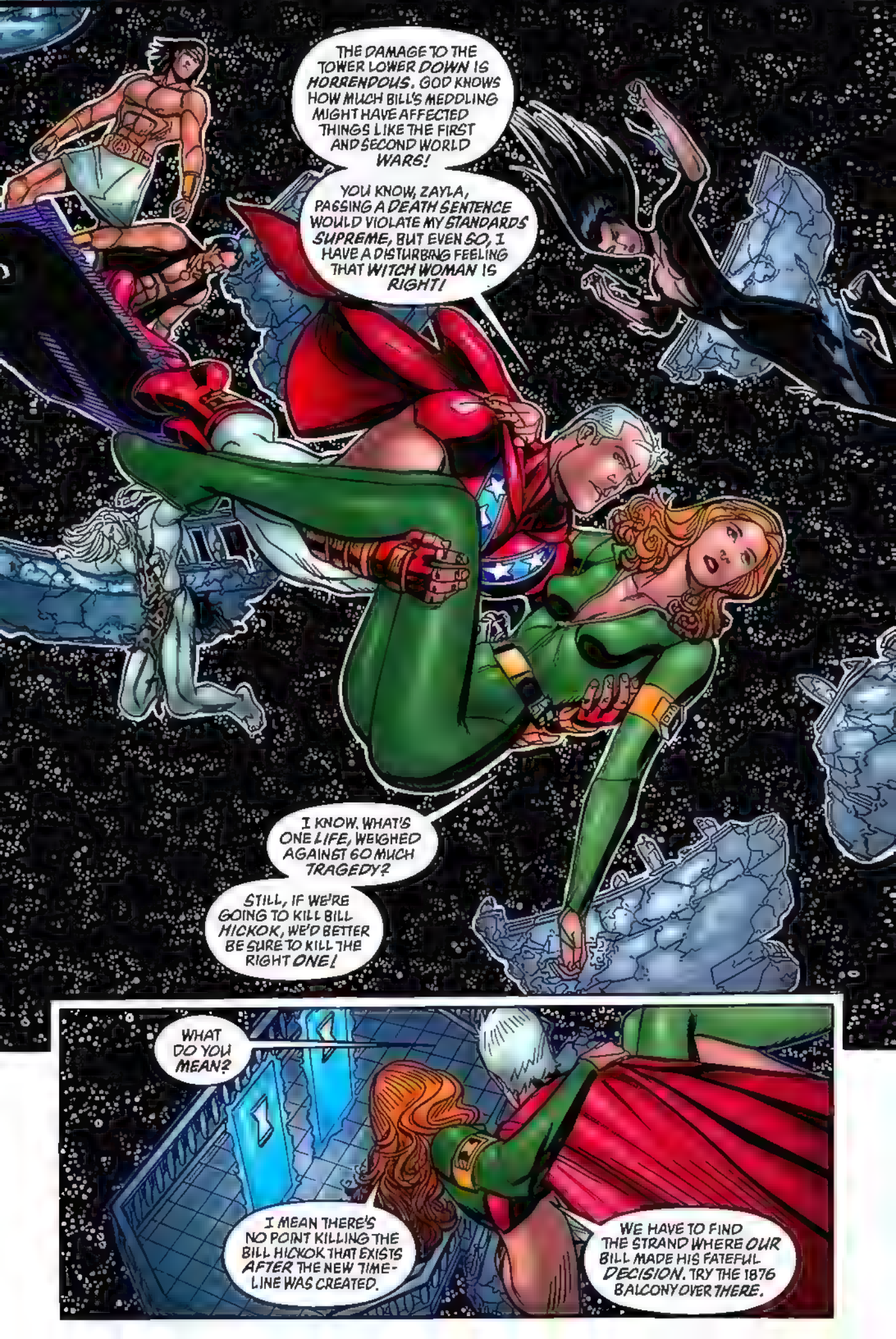
"THE WORST THING WAS, BILL'S LETHAL OUTBURST HADN'T WON HIM JESSIE HAZEL. AFTER THAT, SHE SPURNED ALL HIS ADVANCES...
"IN HER GEORGIA DRAWL SHE'D CALL HIM JUST ONE MORE DAMN YANKEE WHO'D HELPED HUMILIATE HER PEOPLE IN THAT RECENT, BITTER WAR.
"THOSE NEXT FOUR YEARS HE COURTED HER, GROWING MORE DESPERATE, MORE UNBALANCED. BILL HICKOK PACED MORE STRESS THAN THE AVERAGE WESTERNER.
"...ALONG WITH LEGENDS LIKE THE BRIMSTONE KID, NIGHTEAGLE AND KID THUNDER, HICKOK HAD EXPERIENCED PARANORMAL FORCES IN THE OLD WEST..
"UNLIKE THOSE OTHER HEROES, HOWEVER, WILD BILL HAD BEEN A MEMBER OF THE TIME-SPANNING LEAGUE OF INFINITY SINCE HE WAS TWELVE YEARS OLD.
"ONE OF OUR MOST TRUSTED FOUNDERS, HE HAD ACCESS TO THE TIME TOWER.
"ON HIS FORTIETH BIRTHDAY, MAYBE IN THE THROES OF WHAT THE TWENTIETH CENTURY CALLS A MID-LIFE CRISIS, WILD BILL HICKOK HIT ON A DEMENTED PLAN.
"HE'D PROVE TO JESSE HAZEL THAT HE LOVED THE SOUTH AS MUCH AS SHE. HE WOULD UNDO THE WRONGS HE'D PERPETRATED IN THE CIVIL WAR."

"FROM 1877, HE FIRST MADE A STOP JUST TEN FLIGHTS HIGHER UP THE TOWER, A HUNDRED YEARS INTO HIS FUTURE
"HERE HE PICKED UP CERTAIN DOCUMENTS THAT WOULD GIVE AN ADVANTAGE TO THE SOUTH, RETURNING WITH THEM FURTHER DOWN THE TOWER TO 1863
"WHATEVER DOUBTS GENERAL LEE HAD ABOUT THIS MANIC STRANGER FROM THE FUTURE MUST HAVE DISAPPEARED ONCE BILL EXPLAINED THOSE PLANS AND DOCUMENTS.
"HE UNDERSTOOD THAT THE DEVICE WHICH THEY DESCRIBED COULD WIN THE WAR FOR THE CONFEDERACY
"ONCE BUILT, ALBEIT IN A CRUDE, JERRY-RIGGED FORM, THE MAJOR PROBLEM WAS IN THE DELIVERY OF THIS NEW WEAPON
"LACKING TWENTIETH CENTURY METHODS, AN ALTERNATE SYSTEM WAS DEVISED, ON JUNE 1ST, 1863, CONFEDERATE SPIES SMUGGLED A COVERED WAGON INTO WASHINGTON AT DAWN
"GENERAL LEE TRIGGERED IT HIMSELF, USING A PRIMITIVE CRYSTAL RADIO TRANSMITTER!"

"AT 8:15 AM, WASHINGTON WAS OBLITERATED BY A TEN-MEGATON NUCLEAR EXPLOSION.
"THE UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER OF THE UNION FORCES FOLLOWED THE NEXT DAY."

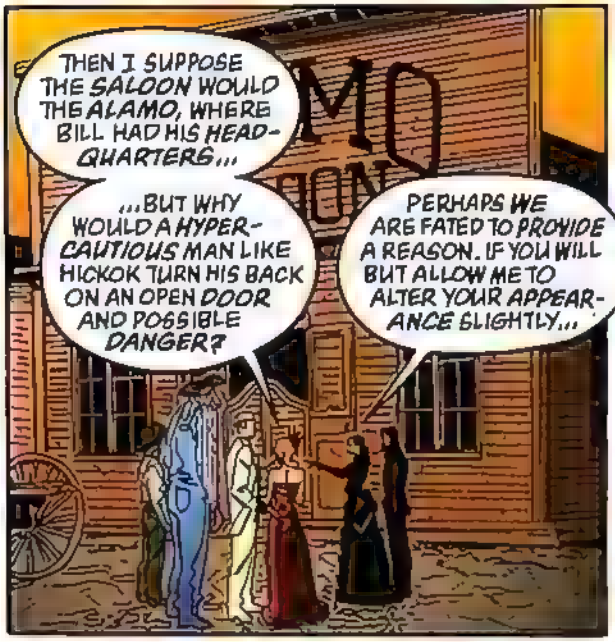
OH MY GOD.
Y-YOU'RE SAYING THAT LEE WON THE CIVIL WAR BY DEPLOYING THE ATOM BOMB?
THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I'M SAYING. EVERYTHING IS DIFFERENT NOW. SLAVERY IS STILL LEGAL, AND ATLANTA IS THE CAPITAL OF THE CONFEDERATED STATES OF AMERICA.
SUPREME, WE HAVE TO DO SOMETHING.
BUT WHAT? BILL'S MEDDLING HAS AFFECTED HISTORY FROM HIS OWN DAY TO THE FAR FUTURE!
YOUR TOWER HAS BEEN REDUCED TO RUBBLE, AND MY CITADEL IS LIKE A FLYING PLANTATION HOUSE...
YOUR PARDON, FRIENDS, BUT WE'VE A SAYING IN MY ERA, THAT A STITCH IN TIME SAVES NINE.
A STITCH IN TIME? WHAT DO YOU MEAN, VIVIENNE?
AYE, WITCH WOMAN! EXPLAIN THYSELF!
I MEAN WE HAVE NO CHOICE SAVE TO REPAIR THE REND IN TIME BEFORE OUR MASTER WILLIAM WORKED HIS MISCHIEF.
WE CAN MEND THE RIP BEFORE IT WIDENS ...EVEN IF THAT MEANS CUTTING A THREAD!

CUTTING A...? VIVIENNE, ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT KILLING WILD BILL?
MY CENTURY IS ONE MORE HARSH AND PRACTICAL THAN YOURS, ZAYLA.
COME... LET US PUT IT TO THE BALLOT. ALL IN FAVOR RAISE THEIR HANDS.
I-I SEE. THEN IT IS CARRIED.
WOULD YOU FLY ME, SUPREME? IT SEEMS THAT WE HAVE BUSINESS FURTHER DOWN THE TOWER...


THE DAMAGE TO THE TOWER LOWER DOWN IS HORRENDOUS. GOD KNOWS HOW MUCH BILL'S MEDDLING MIGHT HAVE AFFECTED THINGS LIKE THE FIRST AND SECOND WORLD WARS!
YOU KNOW, ZAYLA, PASSING A DEATH SENTENCE WOULD VIOLATE MY STANDARDS SUPREME, BUT EVEN SO, I HAVE A DISTURBING FEELING THAT WITCH WOMAN IS RIGHT!
I KNOW. WHAT'S ONE LIFE, WEIGHED AGAINST SO MUCH TRAGEDY?
STILL, IF WE'RE GOING TO KILL BILL HICKOK, WE'D BETTER BE SURE TO KILL THE RIGHT ONE!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
I MEAN THERE'S NO POINT KILLING THE BILL HICKOK THAT EXISTS AFTER THE NEW TIME-LINE WAS CREATED.
WE HAVE TO FIND THE STRAND WHERE OUR BILL MADE HIS FATEFUL DECISION. TRY THE 1876 BALCONY OVER THERE.

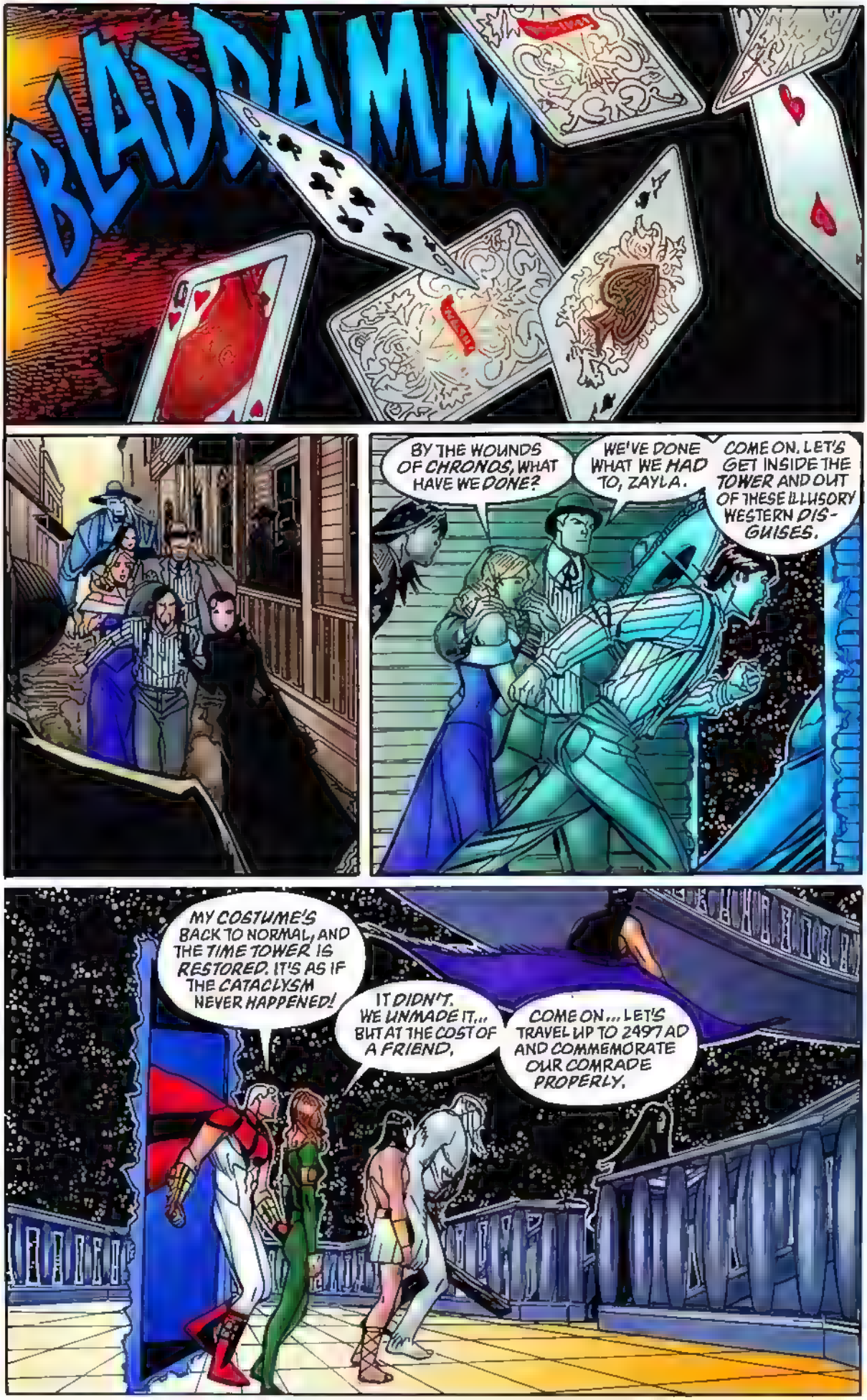
THERE'S TWO DOORS. IT MUST HAVE HAPPENED WHEN TIME SPLIT.
MY CHRONO-DETECTORS INDICATE THAT THE ONE ON THE LEFT LEADS TO AN 1876 THIRTEEN YEARS AFTER THE SOUTH'S NUCLEAR VICTORY.
THE ONE ON THE RIGHT, OPENING ONTO OUR FAMILIAR NORTHERN-DOMINATED 1876, IS THE ONE WE WANT...
...BECAUSE THAT'S THE ONE WHERE BILL MADE HIS ERROR!
WHICHEVER NINETEENTH CENTURY THIS IS, WE'RE NOT CLAD SO AS TO PASS UNNOTICED.
MAYHAP WITCH WOMAN COULD TRANSFORM OUR GARB TO RAINMENT MORE APPROPRIATE TO THIS DAY?
NO SOONER SAID, GOOD ACHILLES...
...THAN IT IS DONE!
INCREDIBLE! I CAN STILL FEEL MY COSTUME, THOUGH I'M SEEING A FANCY, TAILORED SUIT.
MNNNURRGH!
WE ARE AS FIT AS WE SHALL EVER BE TO WALK UNNOTICED THROUGH THESE DUSTY STREETS.
WE ARE IN HICKOK'S MUCH BELOVED ABILENE, BEFORE HE CHANGED IT. HE MUST BE SOMEWHERE NEARBY!
WAIT A MINUTE. THIS IS STARTING TO RING A BELL...
I-I REMEMBER READING SOMEWHERE THAT HICKOK WAS KILLED IN 1876! HE NEVER LIVED TO BE FORTY!

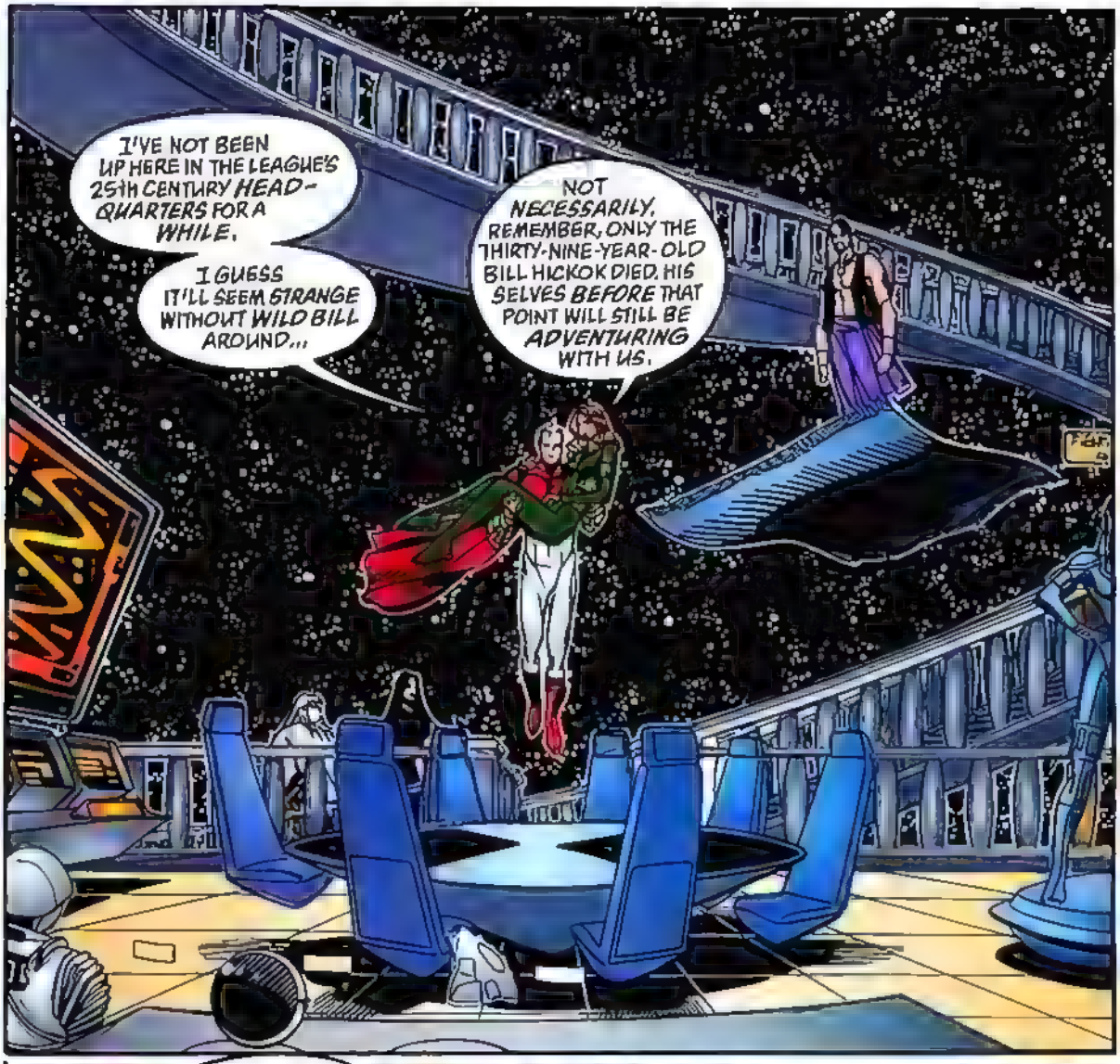
HM. IF YOU'RE STARTING TO REMEMBER A HISTORY WHERE OUR PLOT'S WORKED, THEN THAT'S A GOOD SIGN FOR ITS SUCCESS. WHAT ELSE DO YOU RECALL?
SOMETHING ABOUT HIM BEING SHOT IN A SALOON ON THE ONE DAY HE BROKE A LIFETIME'S HABIT AND SAT WITH HIS BACK TO THE DOOR...


THEN I SUPPOSE THE SALOON WOULD THE ALAMO, WHERE BILL HAD HIS HEAD-QUARTERS...
...BUT WHY WOULD A HYPER-CAUTIOUS MAN LIKE HICKOK TURN HIS BACK ON AN OPEN DOOR AND POSSIBLE DANGER?
PERHAPS WE ARE FATED TO PROVIDE A REASON. IF YOU WILL BUT ALLOW ME TO ALTER YOUR APPEAR-ANCE SLIGHTLY...

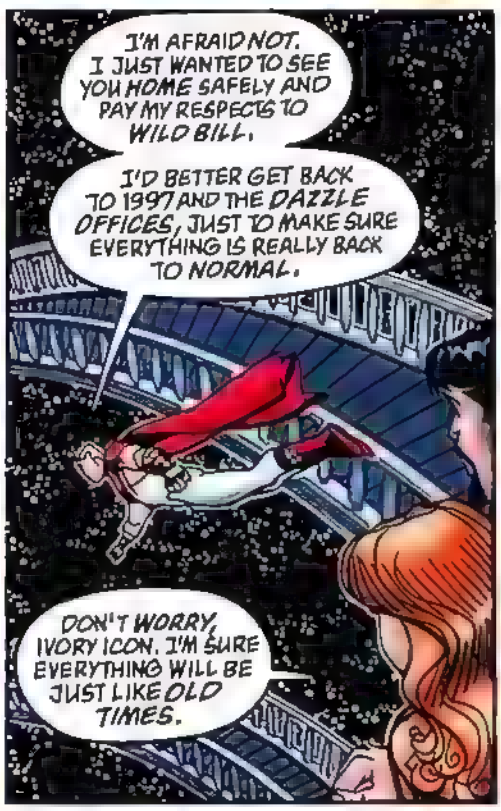
>GASP!< WHAT HAVE YOU DONE? I-I LOOK LIKE...
...LIKE MASTER WILLIAM'S TRUE LOVE JESSIE HAZEL. IS SHE NOT A SIGHT TO TURN HIS HEAD?
I THINK I SEE WITCH WOMAN'S PLAN. I...I GUESS YOU'D BETTER GET IN THERE, ZAYLA.

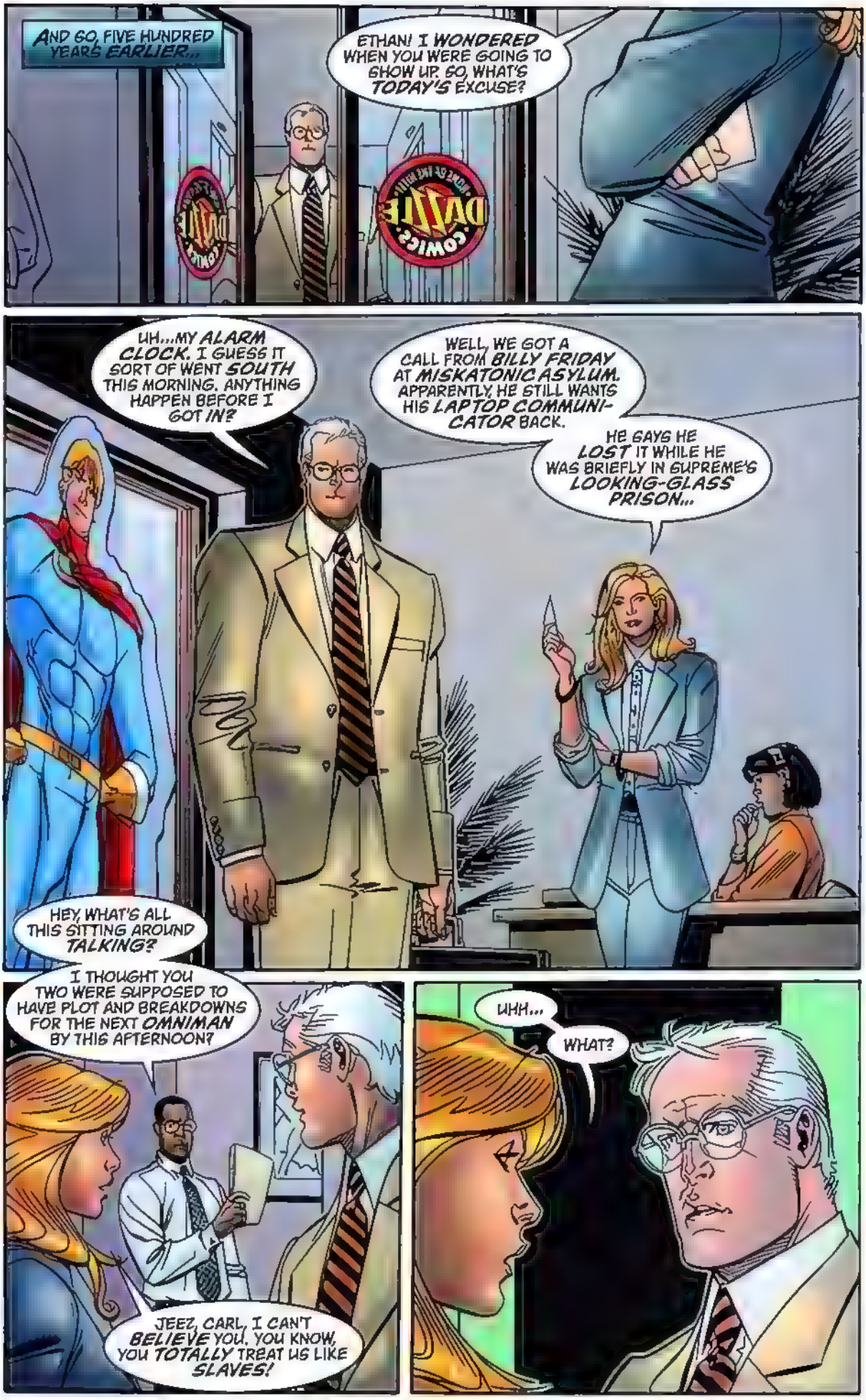
JESSIE...?
BILL, I...
I LOVE YOU, BILL.
OH JESSIE...

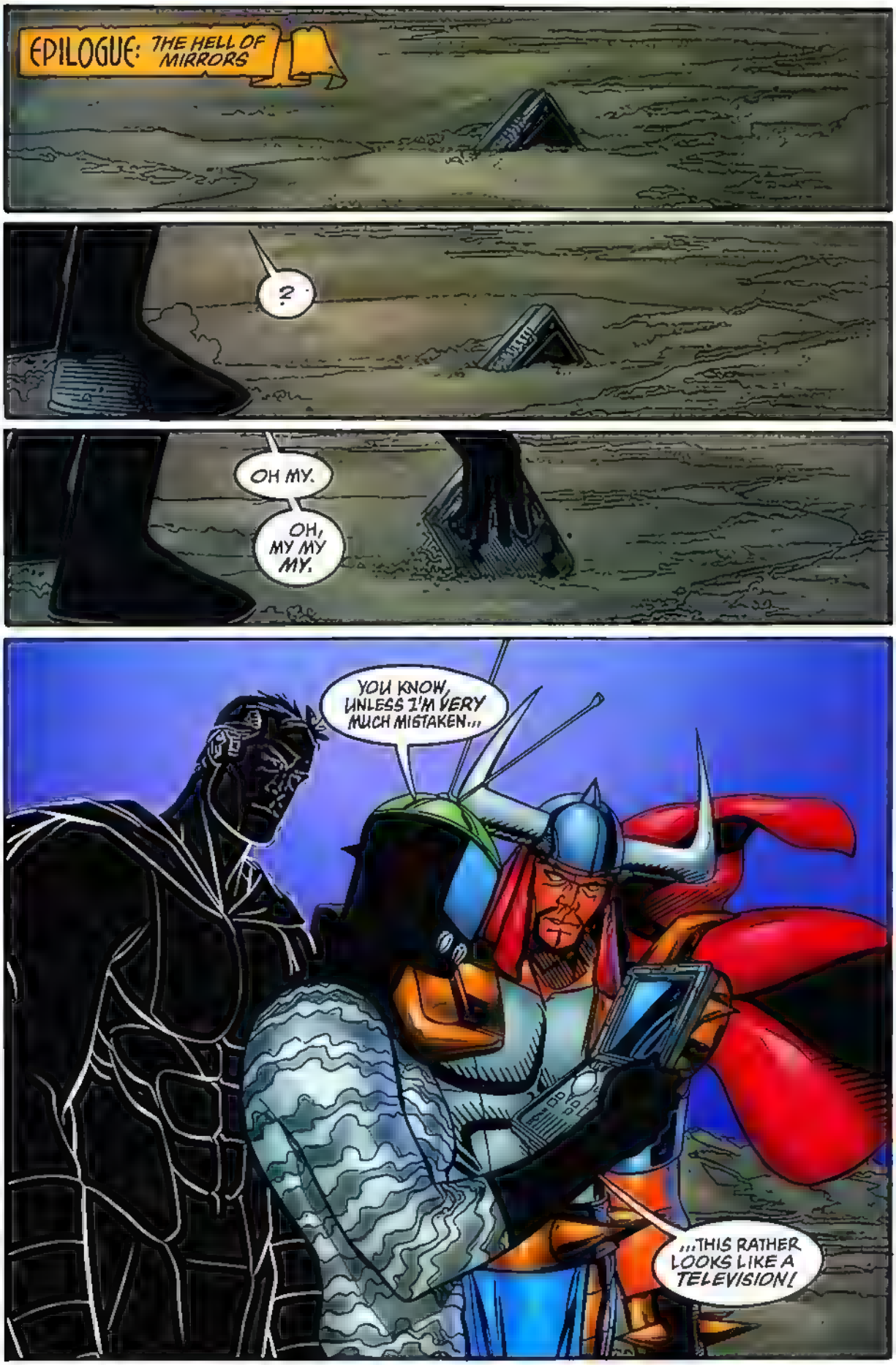

BLADAMM
BY THE WOUNDS OF CHRONOS, WHAT HAVE WE DONE?
WE'VE DONE WHAT WE HAD TO, ZAYLA.
COME ON. LET'S GET INSIDE THE TOWER AND OUT OF THESE ILLUSORY WESTERN DISGUISES.
MY COSTUME'S BACK TO NORMAL, AND THE TIME TOWER IS RESTORED. IT'S AS IF THE CATACLYSM NEVER HAPPENED!
IT DIDN'T. WE UNMADE IT... BUT AT THE COST OF A FRIEND.
COME ON... LET'S TRAVEL UP TO 2497 AD AND COMMEMORATE OUR COMRADE PROPERLY.


I'VE NOT BEEN UP HERE IN THE LEAGUE'S 25th CENTURY HEAD-QUARTERS FOR A WHILE.
I GUESS IT'LL SEEM STRANGE WITHOUT WILD BILL AROUND...
NOT NECESSARILY, REMEMBER, ONLY THE THIRTY-NINE-YEAR-OLD BILL HICKOK DIED. HIS SELVES BEFORE THAT POINT WILL STILL BE ADVENTURING WITH US.

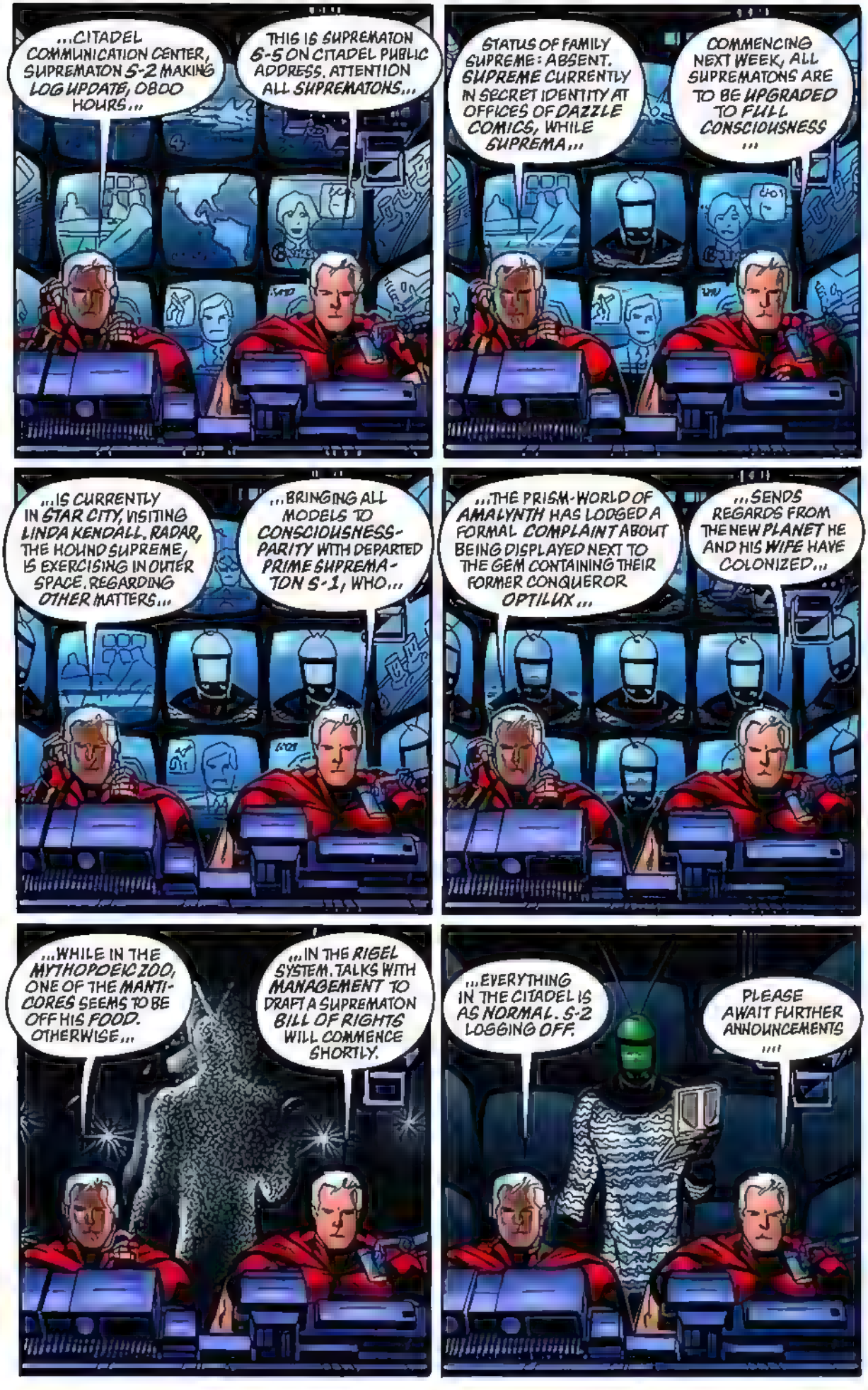
HOW STRANGE, AND YET THIS STATUE COMMEMORATING HIS DEATH IS ALREADY IN YOUR MEMORIAL GALLERY...
...AND ALWAYS HAS BEEN. ALL THE LEAGUE'S MEMBERS, FROM WHATEVER PERIOD, HAVE THEIR MEMORIALS HERE.
HERE, THERE ARE STATUES MOURNING MY FUTURE DEATH, AND EVEN YOUR OWN. THERE ARE MONUMENTS FOR UN-KNOWN HEROES, WHO HAVEN'T EVEN JOINED THE LEAGUE YET.
WILL YOU STAY LONG IN OUR HUMBLE DWELLING, O EXALTED SUPREME?


I'M AFRAID NOT. I JUST WANTED TO SEE YOU HOME SAFELY AND PAY MY RESPECTS TO WILD BILL.
I'D BETTER GET BACK TO 1997 AND THE DAZZLE OFFICES, JUST TO MAKE SURE EVERYTHING IS REALLY BACK TO NORMAL.
DON'T WORRY, IVORY ICON. I'M SURE EVERYTHING WILL BE JUST LIKE OLD TIMES.


AND SO, FIVE HUNDRED YEARS EARLIER...
ETHAN! I WONDERED WHEN YOU WERE GOING TO SHOW UP. SO, WHAT'S TODAY'S EXCUSE?
UH...MY ALARM CLOCK. I GUESS IT SORT OF WENT SOUTH THIS MORNING. ANYTHING HAPPEN BEFORE I GOT IN?
WELL, WE GOT A CALL FROM BILLY FRIDAY AT MISKATONIC ASYLUM. APPARENTLY, HE STILL WANTS HIS LAPTOP COMMUNICATOR BACK.
HE SAYS HE LOST IT WHILE HE WAS BRIEFLY IN SUPREME'S LOOKING-GLASS PRISON...
HEY, WHAT'S ALL THIS SITTING AROUND TALKING?
I THOUGHT YOU TWO WERE SUPPOSED TO HAVE PLOT AND BREAKDOWNS FOR THE NEXT OMNIMAN BY THIS AFTERNOON?
JEEZ, CARL, I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU. YOU KNOW, YOU TOTALLY TREAT US LIKE SLAVES!
UHH...
WHAT?



NEXT: "The Mirror Crack'd From Side To Side..."


...CITADEL COMMUNICATION CENTER, SUPREMATON S-2 MAKING LOG UPDATE, 0800 HOURS...
THIS IS SUPREMATON S-5 ON CITADEL PUBLIC ADDRESS. ATTENTION ALL SUPREMATONS...
STATUS OF FAMILY SUPREME: ABSENT. SUPREME CURRENTLY IN SECRET IDENTITY AT OFFICES OF DAZZLE COMICS, WHILE SUPREMA...
COMMENCING NEXT WEEK, ALL SUPREMATONS ARE TO BE UPGRADED TO FULL CONSCIOUSNESS ...
...IS CURRENTLY IN STAR CITY, VISITING LINDA KENDALL. RADAR, THE HOUND SUPREME, IS EXERCISING IN OUTER SPACE. REGARDING OTHER MATTERS...
...BRINGING ALL MODELS TO CONSCIOUSNESS-PARITY WITH DEPARTED PRIME SUPREMATON S-1, WHO...
...THE PRISM-WORLD OF AMALYNTH HAS LODGED A FORMAL COMPLAINT ABOUT BEING DISPLAYED NEXT TO THE GEM CONTAINING THEIR FORMER CONQUEROR OPTILUX...
...SENDS REGARDS FROM THE NEW PLANET HE AND HIS WIFE HAVE COLONIZED...
...WHILE IN THE MYTHOPOEIC ZOO, ONE OF THE MANTICORES SEEMS TO BE OFF HIS FOOD. OTHERWISE...
...IN THE RIGEL SYSTEM. TALKS WITH MANAGEMENT TO DRAFT A SUPREMATON BILL OF RIGHTS WILL COMMENCE SHORTLY.
...EVERYTHING IN THE CITADEL IS AS NORMAL. S-2 LOGGING OFF.
PLEASE AWAIT FURTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS ....

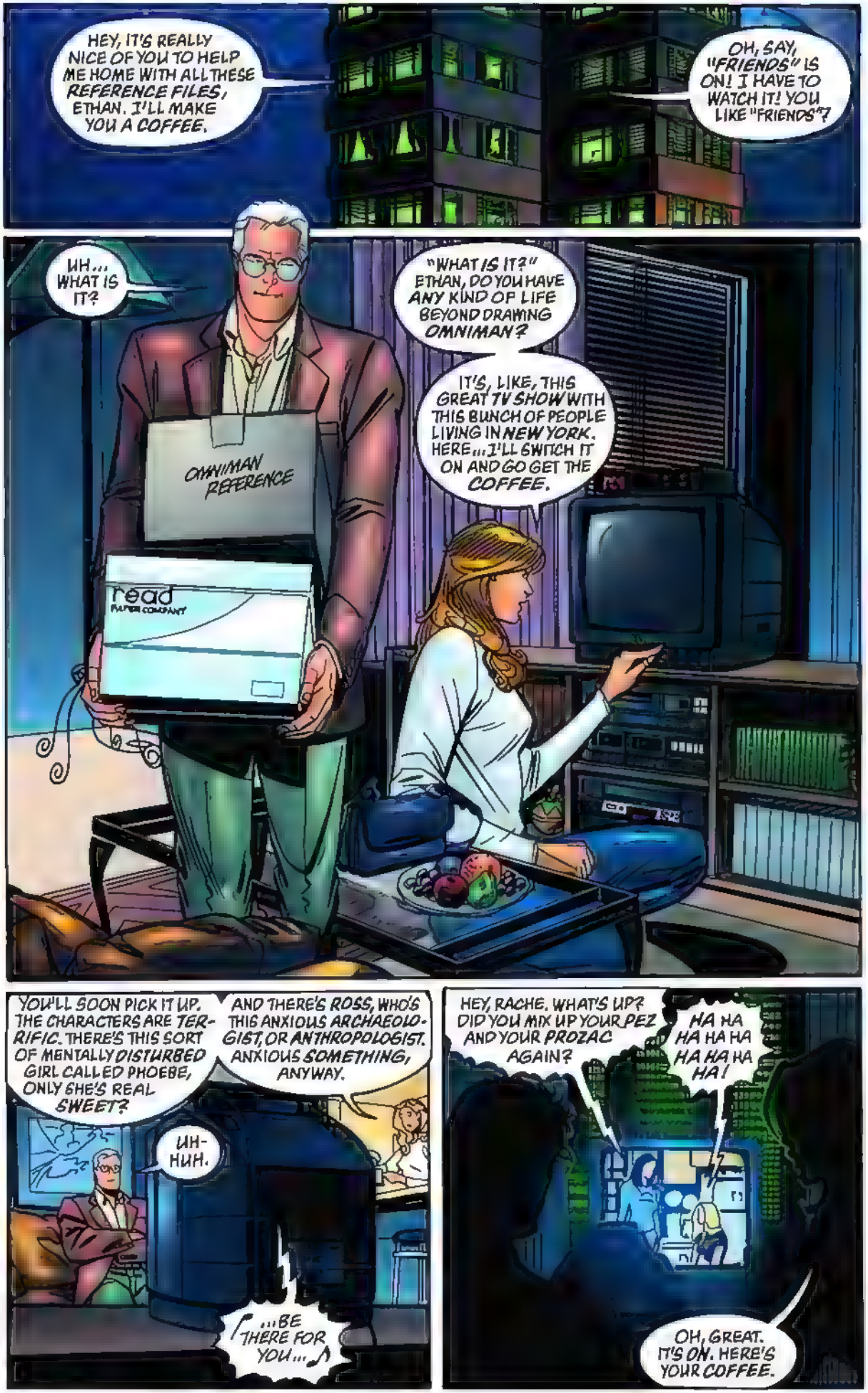
...CONCERNING THE ISSUE OF SOFTWARE TO INSTALL PROGRAMS SUCH AS PERSONALITY, IMAGINATION AND EMOTIVE REACTION, FOLLOWING WHICH...
UH...
EXCLAMATION: HEY!
QUESTION: WHAT IS THE MATTER, 6-2?
RHETORICAL QUESTION: ISN'T THAT THE TELE-VILLAIN?
NON-VERBAL EXCLAMATION SIGNALLING THOUGHTFULNESS: HMMMM!
LOGICALLY, SINCE THE TELEVILLAIN IS CURRENTLY INCARCERATED IN THE HELL OF MIRRORS, THIS CANNOT BE HIM.
SUGGESTION: HE MAY HAVE ESCAPED. LET US WATCH HIM FOR TELL-TALE SIGNS OF CHARACTERISTIC BEHAVIOR.
AFFIRMATIVE EXCLAMATION: AHA!
CONCLUSION: IT'S THE TELEVILLAIN.

OBSERVATION: FROM THIS MONITOR, IT SEEMS HE HAS APPEARED OUT OF A SIMILAR SCREEN IN THE SOUVENIR GALLERY.
THEN WE SHALL GO THERE AND APPREHEND HIM.
IF I MAY REMARK, S-5, YOU ARE COPING VERY WELL WITH THESE UNUSUAL SITUATION-PARAMETERS.
THANK YOU, S-2. YOU ARE ALSO FUNCTIONING BOTH QUICKLY AND ACCURATELY.
QUESTION: WHY DOES THE MASTER THINK WE NEED UPGRADING TO THE LEVEL OF THE DEPARTED S-1?
I DO NOT KNOW. PERSONALLY, I FOUND S-1 TO BE MOODY AND ALWAYS JUMPING TO CONCLUSIONS.
AGREED. HE WOULD NEVER TAKE TIME TO THINK THINGS THROUGH METHODICALLY.
JOCULAR AGREEMENT: YOU CAN SAY THAT AGAIN!
FOR EXAMPLE, I MYSELF HAVE CALCULATED THE MOST LIKELY REASON FOR THE TELEVILLAIN TO BE IN THE SOUVENIR GALLERY.
THAT IS IMPRESSIVE, S-2. WHAT ARE YOUR CONCLUSIONS?
WELL, SINCE THE LOOKING-GLASS PRISON'S CONTROL SWITCH IS NOW IN THE "OFF" POSITION, IT SEEMS LIKELY WE ARE WITNESSING A JAILBREAK.

SUPREME
"The Mirror Crack'd From Side To Side..."
UNDENIABLY.
YOUR REASONING, AS EVER, IS FLAWLE...

UHNGH! UHNGH! UHNGH!
SQREEEEE!
BY THE DEATH-SHRIEKS OF MY PARENTS! IT'S GOOD TO BE FREE ONCE MORE!
YEAH. I WONDER IF ANY OF THE OTHER VILLAINS HAVE NOTICED THE MIRROR IS OPEN YET?
WE CERTAINLY HAVE. WE MAY ONLY BE MINOR-LEAGUE MENACES, BUT WE AREN'T STUPID.
HOWEVER DID YOU MANAGE TO ESCAPE, REUBEN? MOST OF US HAVE BEEN IN THERE THIRTY YEARS...
OH, HI, SLAVER ANT. IT WAS EASY. YOU REMEMBER THAT KID WITH ALL THE ARMS WHO VISITED A WHILE BACK?
THE ONE WHO KEPT TRYING TO INTERVIEW US ABOUT OUR MOTIVATIONS? DIDN'T WE BEG SUPREME TO TAKE HIM AWAY?
THAT'S RIGHT. WELL, IT SEEMS HE LEFT THIS TELECOMMUNICATOR BEHIND.
I USED IT TO BEAM OUT, THEN OPENED THE MIRROR.
WELL, I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU FREAKS, BUT I'M LEAVING RIGHT NOW.
AH, LET HIM GO. SENTINEL WAS JUST A TURNCOAT SUPER-HERO ANYWAY. HE WAS NEVER ONE OF THE GUYS.
I SAW THE END. HE SAID HE WASN'T COMING OUT, SO I SUPPOSE IT'S JUST US FOUR. WHAT SHALL WE DO NEXT?
FOR MY PART, I MUST LOCATE MY POWER BELT...

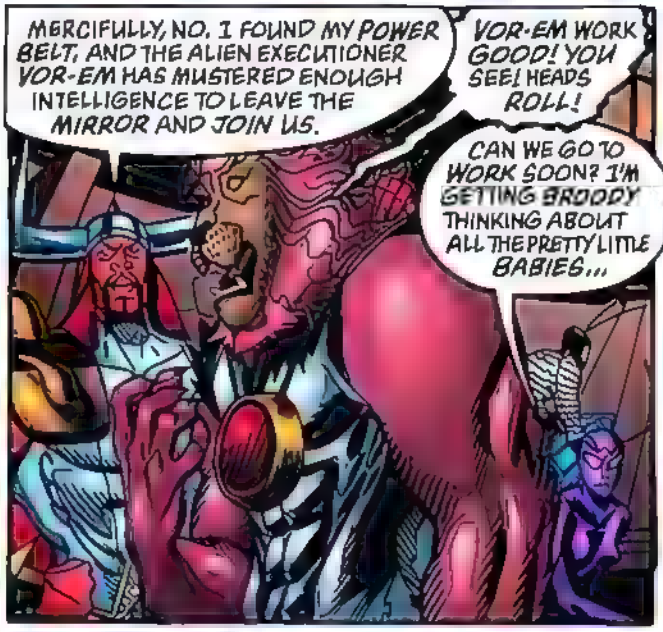
RRRRAARRGH! I'LL LOOK FOR SOME MORE ROBOTS TO KILL, THEN I'LL WAIT FOR THE GIRL AND THE DOG.
GOOD PLAN. I'LL GO CHECK OUT WHATEVER'S UPSTAIRS. HOW ABOUT YOU, SLAYER ANT?
OH, EVENTUALLY I'D LIKE TO ABDUCT SOME CHILDREN FOR SERVANTS, BUT THAT CAN WAIT. I MAY AS WELL ACCOMPANY YOU.
TO BE HONEST, I JUST WANT TO GET AWAY FROM THE SHADOW SUPREME FOR A WHILE. THAT GUY IS SO NEGATIVE...
I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN. HE'S A KILLER. UNLIKE ME, HE DOESN'T TAKE PRISONERS.
OOH. THAT LOOKS PRETTY OVER THERE WHAT IS IT?
THIS? IT'S THE PRISM-WORLD OF AMALYNTH. ONE OF THOSE SUPREMATONS THAT SHAD GUTTED WAS SAYING SOMETHING ABOUT IT EARLIER...
I SEE. AND WHAT ABOUT THIS OVER HERE?
THIS? IT'S...
OH BOY. HA HA HA! THIS IS GOOD. THIS IS VERY GOOD! GO DOWNSTAIRS AND FETCH THE OTHERS.
TELL THEM IT'S SHOWTIME!


HEY, IT'S REALLY NICE OF YOU TO HELP ME HOME WITH ALL THESE REFERENCE FILES, ETHAN. I'LL MAKE YOU A COFFEE.
OH, SAY, "FRIENDS" IS ON! I HAVE TO WATCH IT! YOU LIKE "FRIENDS"?
UH... WHAT IS IT?
OMNIMAN REFERENCE
read
"WHAT IS IT?" ETHAN, DO YOU HAVE ANY KIND OF LIFE BEYOND DRAWING OMNIMAN?
IT'S, LIKE, THIS GREAT TV SHOW WITH THIS BUNCH OF PEOPLE LIVING IN NEW YORK. HERE... I'LL SWITCH IT ON AND GO GET THE COFFEE.
YOU'LL SOON PICK IT UP. THE CHARACTERS ARE TERRIFIC. THERE'S THIS SORT OF MENTALLY DISTURBED GIRL CALLED PHOEBE, ONLY SHE'S REAL SWEET?
AND THERE'S ROSS, WHO'S THIS ANXIOUS ARCHAEOLOGIST, OR ANTHROPOLOGIST. ANXIOUS SOMETHING, ANYWAY.
UH-HUH.
...BE THERE FOR YOU...
HEY, RACHE. WHAT'S UP? DID YOU MIX UP YOUR PEZ AND YOUR PROZAC AGAIN?
HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA!
OH, GREAT. IT'S ON. HERE'S YOUR COFFEE.

OH, HI MONICA. NO, I'M JUST WORRIED ROSS IS LOSING HIS DESIRE FOR ME.
OH, WHAT, LIKE, SEX TAKES FOUR MINUTES NOW?
DING DONG
JUST A SECOND, I'LL GET THE DOOR.
HA HA HA HA
OH, HI.
UH, RACHE? I THINK CHANDLER'S HAD AN ACCIDENT WITH HIS TV SET...
HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA!
CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP
OH, THIS IS JUST TOO COOL! THEY'RE DOING SUPERHERO HUMOR! LOOK, SOMEONE'S DRESSED UP LIKE THAT OLD SUPREME BAD GUY.
THE TELEVILLAIN. YES...
WELL, COME ON IN... JUST DON'T KILL THE CONVERSATION!
HA HA HA HA HA HA!
SHUT UP, BITCH.
I'M HERE TO DELIVER A MESSAGE TO THE NETWORKS. BASICALLY, I GET A MILLION DOLLARS, OR I KILL YOUR RATINGS...
HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA!
...LIKE THIS!
BLADDAM! BLAM! BLAM!
HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA!
PAY UP BY TOMORROW, OR I WHACK COMMANDER PICARD AND THE FRUITY ROBOT GUY!
H-HE JUST SHOT MONICA, EXECUTION STYLE...
MY GOD.
DIANA, THAT ISN'T SUPERHERO HUMOR. THAT'S THE TELEVILLAIN!

B-BUT HOW CAN IT BE? I MEAN, "FRIENDS" IS A TELEVISION SHOW! IT ISN'T REAL!
NO, BUT THE TELEVILLAIN IS. DIANA, CAN I USE YOUR PHONE?
WE REGRET TO INTERRUPT THIS EPISODE OF FRIENDS, BUT WE'RE EXPERIENCING TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES. PLEASE STAND BY.
UH, SURE. WHO DO YOU NEED TO CALL?
IT'S, UM, IT'S MY SISTER. I JUST GOT WORRIED AND FIGURED I'D CHECK ON HER...
AH! HELLO, TAYLOR. YES, IT'S ETHAN. LISTEN, IS SALLY STILL OVER THERE WITH LINDA?
WELL, SHE WAS HERE FOR A WHILE TAKING A LOOK AT LINDA'S NEW COSTUME, BUT THEN SHE LEFT.
I THINK SHE SAID SHE WAS MEETING RADAR AT THE CITADEL. WHY? IS SOMETHING WRONG?
COULD BE. I'LL KEEP YOU INFORMED, TAYLOR.
'BYE.
I-IS EVERYTHING ALL RIGHT?
NOT REALLY. LISTEN, DIANA, I HAVE TO WARN SUPREME ABOUT THIS TELEVILLAIN THING.
YOU STAY INDOORS TONIGHT, OKAY? DON'T GO OUT. I MEAN IT.
THE CAST OF "FRIENDS" HAVE CALLED THE NETWORK TO REASSURE VIEWERS THEY ARE UNHARMED, ALBEIT PUZZLED. NORMAL SERVICE WILL BE RESUMED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE...

AH! PIXILLATED ONE! HOW DID YOUR MISSION FARE?
I TELLYA, KORGO, IT WAS FUN, BUT A LOT OF MY FAVORITE SHOWS AREN'T ON ANYMORE. THEY EVEN CANCELLED GUNSMOKE!
ANYTHING HAPPEN WHILE I WAS IN THE TUBE?
THE END DIDN'T DECIDE TO SHOW AFTER ALL, DID HE?


MERCIFULLY, NO. I FOUND MY POWER BELT, AND THE ALIEN EXECUTIONER VOR-EM HAS MUSTERED ENOUGH INTELLIGENCE TO LEAVE THE MIRROR AND JOIN US.
VOR-EM WORK GOOD! YOU SEE! HEADS ROLL!
CAN WE GO TO WORK SOON? I'M GETTING BROODY THINKING ABOUT ALL THE PRETTY LITTLE BABIES...

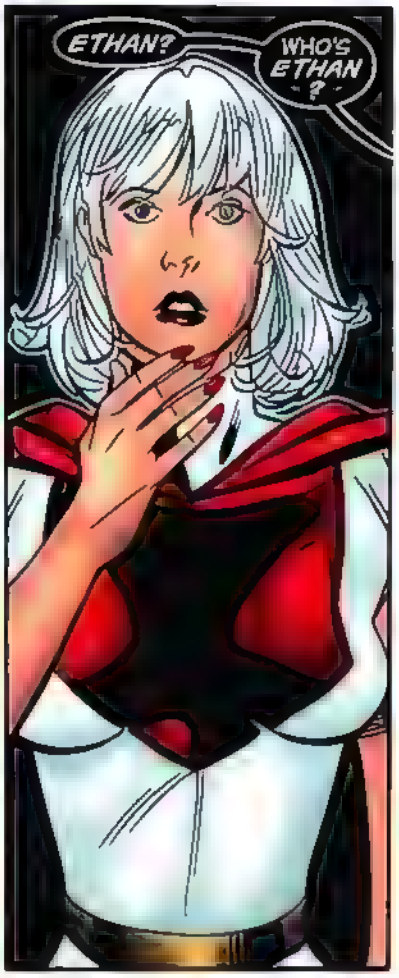
SURE. NOW I GOT THIS LITTLE BEAUTY, WE CAN LEAVE WHENEVER YOU WANT, ASSUMING KORGO FOUND THOSE HOVER-LENSES LIKE I ASKED HIM.
HERE. THEY WERE IN THE WEAPON GALLERY WITH MY BELT AND THE PHOTO-PLASMIC CONVERTER. WHAT ABOUT THE SHADOW SUPREME?
HE'S BUSY KILLING SUPREMATONS SOMEWHERE, LET'S GO.

VERY WELL. MY BELT'S GRAVITY GEM WILL TRANSPORT US ALL DOWN SAFELY.
YOU KNOW, AFTER SO LONG IN PRISON, ADJUSTING TO SOCIETY IS NOTORIOUSLY DIFFICULT...
...BUT NOT HALF SO DIFFICULT AS SOCIETY WILL FIND ADJUSTING TO US!

WHEW! WHAT A DAY THAT WAS! HONESTLY, YOU SHOULD SEE TWILIGHT'S NEW OUTFIT! I JUST ABOUT DIED!
HELLO, ETHAN? RADAR? ANYBODY HOME?

OH! THERE YOU ARE!
WELL, ANYWAY, LIKE I WAS SAYING ABOUT LINDA'S COSTUME,
SHE'S TRADED IN THAT SENSIBLE VEST FOR THIS...
...I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'D CALL IT!

PLUS, SHE CUT HER HAIR. I TOLD HER I'D STICK TO MY OLD LOOK FROM NOW ON!
SAY, ETHAN, HAVE YOU SEEN RADAR? I PROMISED I'D WALK HIM AROUND THE WESTERN SPIRAL ARM THIS EVENING...


ETHAN?
WHO'S ETHAN...?

OH, AND BY THE WAY...
...I KILLED YOUR DOG.
EVENTUALLY.
OH GOD...

RRRUUAARRGH! THERE IS NO GOD!
GOD IS DEAD!
YOU KILLED HIM!
GHAA!
DARIUS DAX WAS MY GOD! HE WAS MY FATHER! MY CREATOR!
BETWEEN YOU, YOU AND THE ACCURSED ONE TRICKED HIM INTO FUSING WITH THAT SUPREMIUM METEORITE!
YOU DESTROYED HIM!
YOU WILL BEG FOR DEATH BEFORE I'M DONE WITH YOU!
...NNNUHHH...
OR PERHAPS I SHOULD KEEP YOU FOR WHEN KORGO AND I RULE THE EARTH. YOU COULD BE OUR CONCUBINE! WE COULD SHARE YOU!
HOW DOES THAT SOUND?
SSHLRUNG!
UGGGKH...
YOU'D LIKE THAT, WOULDN'T YOU? IF YOU DIDN'T, I COULD USE MY MASTER'S RAY TO MAKE A SHADOW-SUPREMA WHO WOULD! WE COULD...
LEAVE...
HUNH?

...MY...
...SISTER...
...ALONE!
AAAAAA!

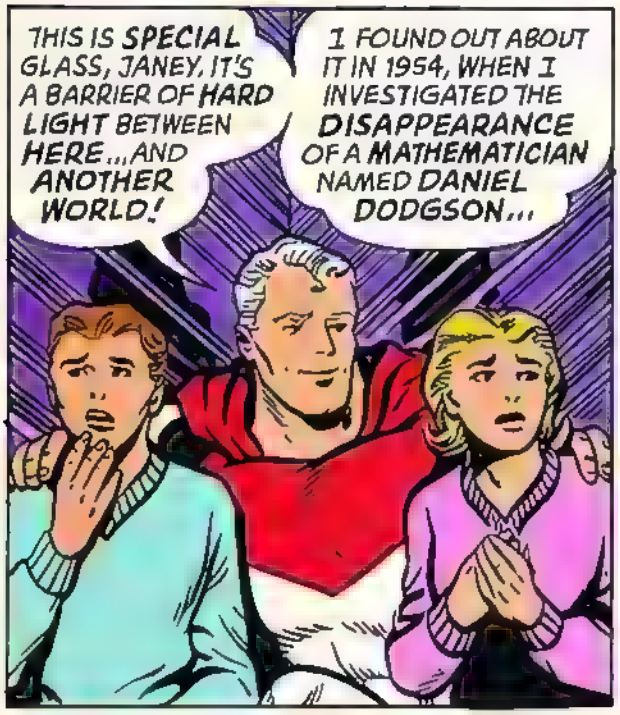
E-ETHAN, HE... HE KILLED RADAR. HE SAID HE WAS G-GOING TO...TO...
IT'S OKAY, SALLY. I'M HERE NOW.
IT LOOKS LIKE ALL THE MIRROR-MENACES ARE LOOSE. I SAW THE TELEVILLAIN ON NETWORK T.V.

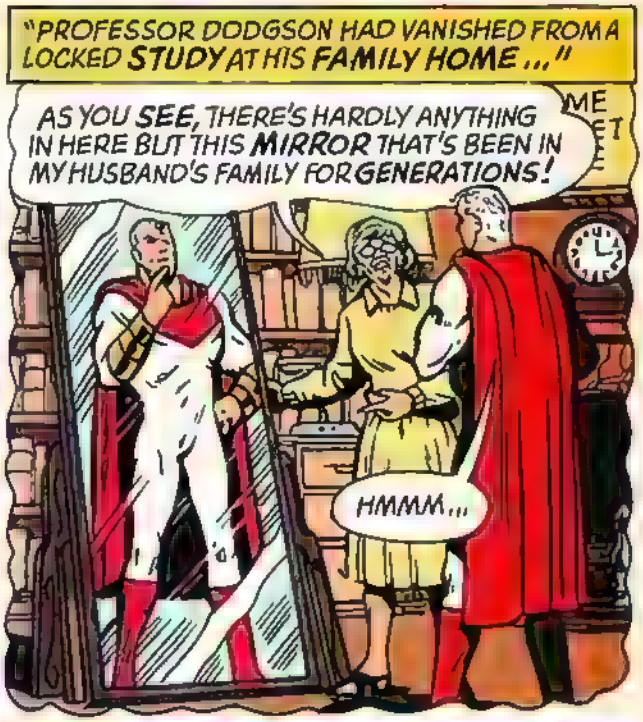
H-HOW DID THEY GET OUT?
I DON'T KNOW... BUT IF I DON'T ROUND THEM UP QUICKLY, WE'LL HAVE A DEATH-COUNT IN THE THOUSANDS!
RADAR. I CAN'T BELIEVE HE KILLED RADAR. WE HAVE TO STOP THEM!

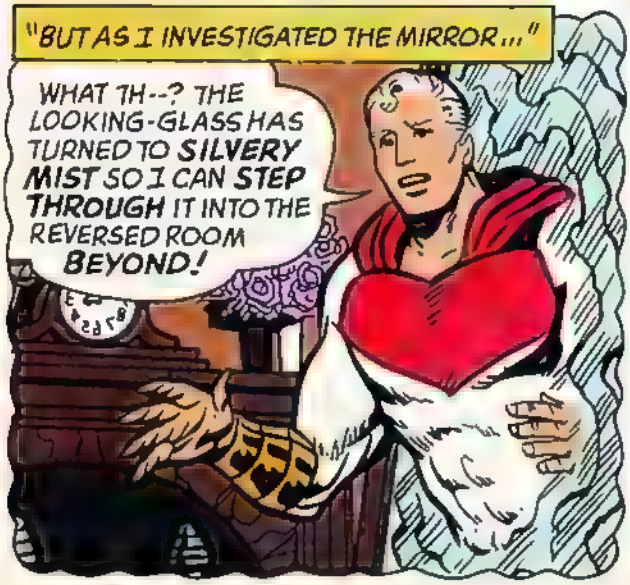
I-I'LL TRY AND STOP THE REST IF YOU'LL HANDLE THE SHADOW SUPREME.
I-IT'S NOT AS IF I'M SCARED OF HIM OR ANYTHING. IT'S JUST...
I KNOW. HE SCARES ME TOO. AND I'LL TAKE HIM DOWN ON MY OWN.

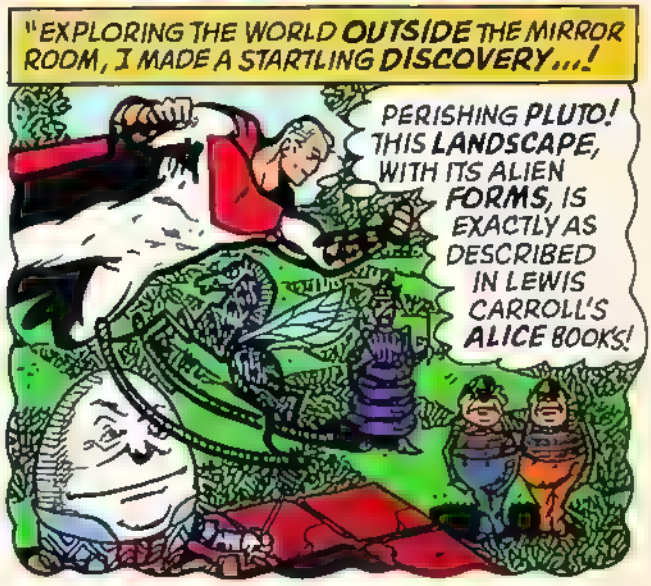
GOOD LUCK. IF ONLY WE KNEW WHAT THEY WERE PLANNING...
MAYBE IT WOULD HELP IF I REVIEWED THEIR CASES AND RECALLED HOW THEY CAME TO BE IN THE HELL OF MIRRORS IN THE FIRST PLACE.
I BUILT THE PRISON IN 1954...

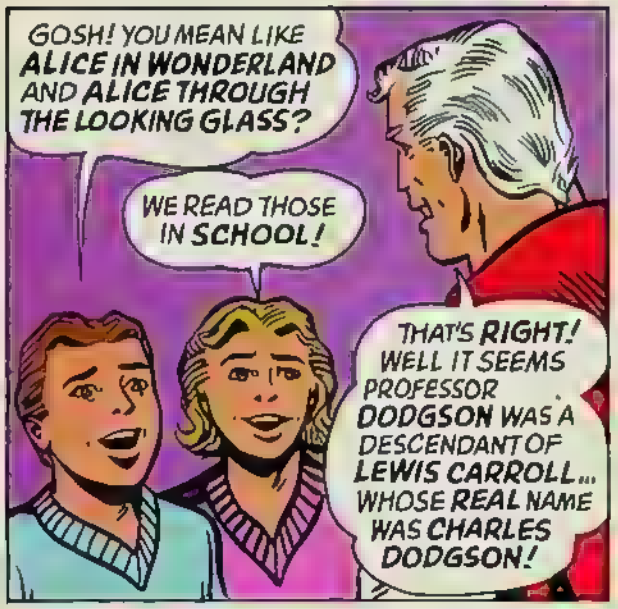
THEY'RE VILLAINS WHO ARE TOO EVIL TO KEEP ANYWHERE ELSE!
THERE'S THE INSANE EVANGELIST OPTILUX, KORGO THE BULLYING SPACE TYRANT, AND THE BESTIAL ALIEN KILLER VOR-EM!
B-BUT HOW DO YOU HOLD THEM ALL BEHIND A THIN PANE MIRROR GLASS?


THIS IS SPECIAL GLASS, JANEY. IT'S A BARRIER OF HARD LIGHT BETWEEN HERE... AND ANOTHER WORLD!
I FOUND OUT ABOUT IT IN 1954, WHEN I INVESTIGATED THE DISAPPEARANCE OF A MATHEMATICIAN NAMED DANIEL DODGSON...

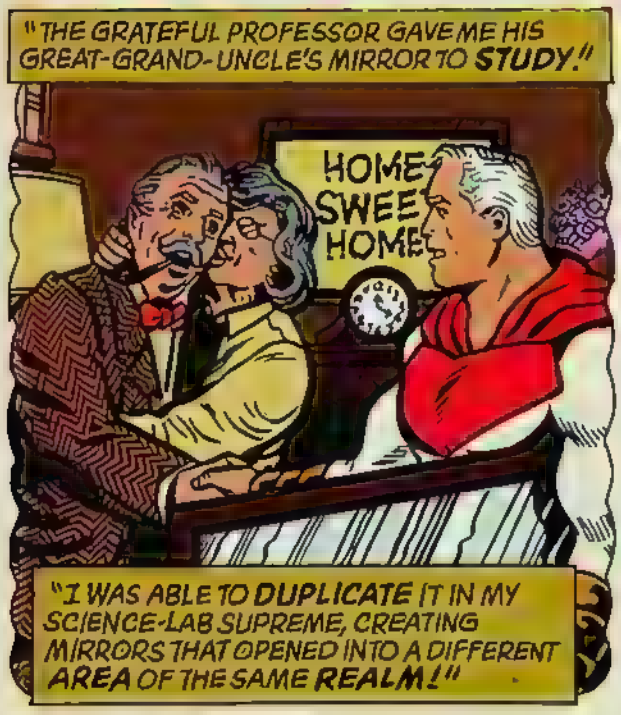

"PROFESSOR DODGSON HAD VANISHED FROM A LOCKED STUDY AT HIS FAMILY HOME..."
AS YOU SEE, THERE'S HARDLY ANYTHING IN HERE BUT THIS MIRROR THAT'S BEEN IN MY HUSBAND'S FAMILY FOR GENERATIONS!
HMMM...

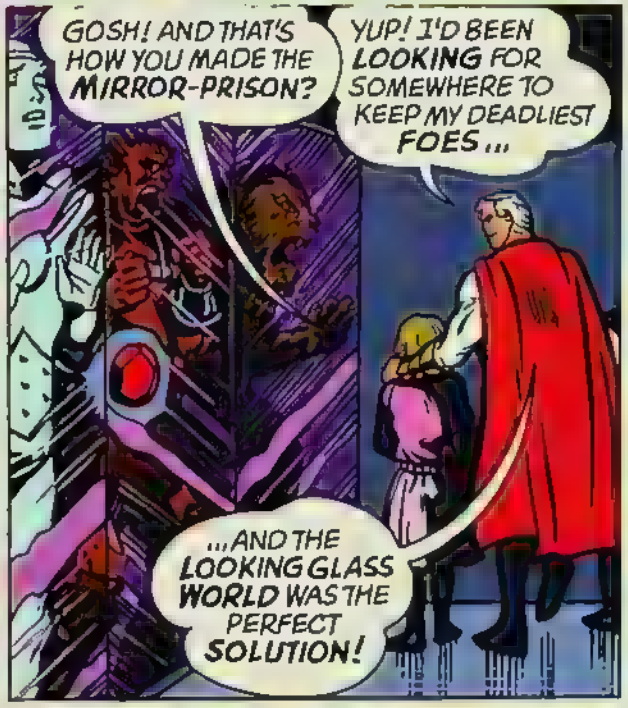

"BUT AS I INVESTIGATED THE MIRROR..."
WHAT TH--? THE LOOKING-GLASS HAS TURNED TO SILVERY MIST SO I CAN STEP THROUGH IT INTO THE REVERSED ROOM BEYOND!

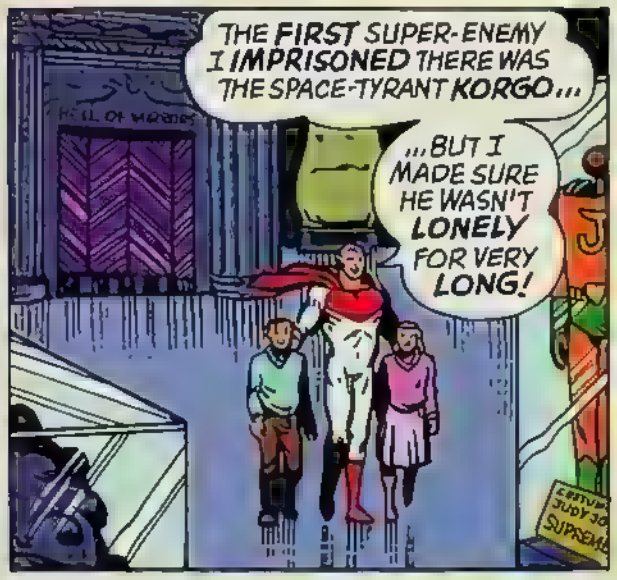

"EXPLORING THE WORLD OUTSIDE THE MIRROR ROOM, I MADE A STARTLING DISCOVERY...!
PERISHING PLUTO! THIS LANDSCAPE, WITH ITS ALIEN FORMS, IS EXACTLY AS DESCRIBED IN LEWIS CARROLL'S ALICE BOOKS!


GOSH! YOU MEAN LIKE ALICE IN WONDERLAND AND ALICE THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS?
WE READ THOSE IN SCHOOL!
THAT'S RIGHT! WELL IT SEEMS PROFESSOR DODGSON WAS A DESCENDANT OF LEWIS CARROLL... WHOSE REAL NAME WAS CHARLES DODGSON!

"ALSO, THE MIRROR IN THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS HAD BEEN REAL! LEWIS CARROLL, HIMSELF A BRILLIANT MATHEMATICIAN, MUST HAVE INVENTED IT!"
"I RESCUED HIS DESCENDANT DANIEL DODGSON FROM A JABBERWOCK, THEN TOOK HIM HOME!"

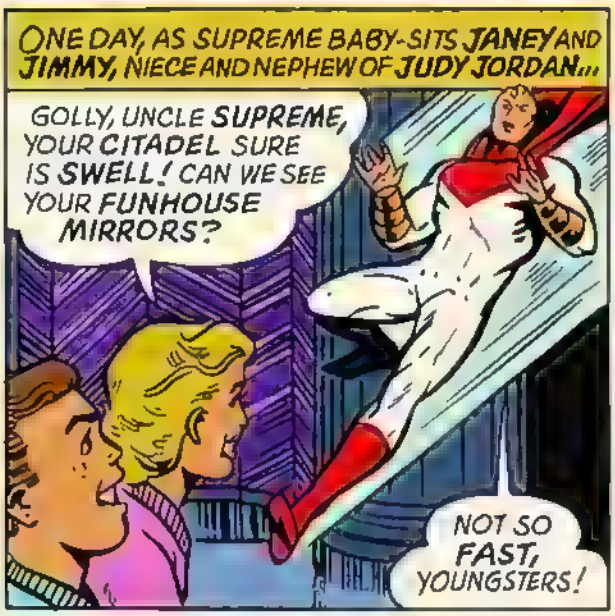

"THE GRATEFUL PROFESSOR GAVE ME HIS GREAT-GRAND-UNCLE'S MIRROR TO STUDY."
HOME SWEET HOME
"I WAS ABLE TO DUPLICATE IT IN MY SCIENCE-LAB SUPREME, CREATING MIRRORS THAT OPENED INTO A DIFFERENT AREA OF THE SAME REALM!"


GOSH! AND THAT'S HOW YOU MADE THE MIRROR-PRISON?
YUP! I'D BEEN LOOKING FOR SOMEWHERE TO KEEP MY DEADLIEST FOES...
...AND THE LOOKING GLASS WORLD WAS THE PERFECT SOLUTION!


THE FIRST SUPER-ENEMY I IMPRISONED THERE WAS THE SPACE-TYRANT KORGO...
...BUT I MADE SURE HE WASN'T LONELY FOR VERY LONG!

"VOR-EM, THE MURDEROUS FREELANCE EXECUTIONER FROM THE ANTARES SYSTEM SOON JOINED HIM, AFTER DARIUS DAX HIRED VOR-EM TO EXECUTE ME!"

DON'T BE AFRAID, KIDS! THE MENACES IN MY LOOKING-GLASS LEAVENWORTH MIGHT NOT MAKE SUITABLE STORIES FOR CHILDREN...
...AND YET IT'S A CHILDREN'S STORY THAT RENDERS THEM ALL POWERLESS!
WHAT MYSTERY LURKS IN SUPREME'S DAZZLING DUNGEON? FIND OUT IN
"SECRET of the SEMI-SILVERED SING-SING!"


ONE DAY, AS SUPREME BABY-SITS JANEY AND JIMMY, NIECE AND NEPHEW OF JUDY JORDAN...
GOLLY, UNCLE SUPREME, YOUR CITADEL SURE IS SWELL! CAN WE SEE YOUR FUNHOUSE MIRRORS?
NOT SO FAST, YOUNGSTERS!

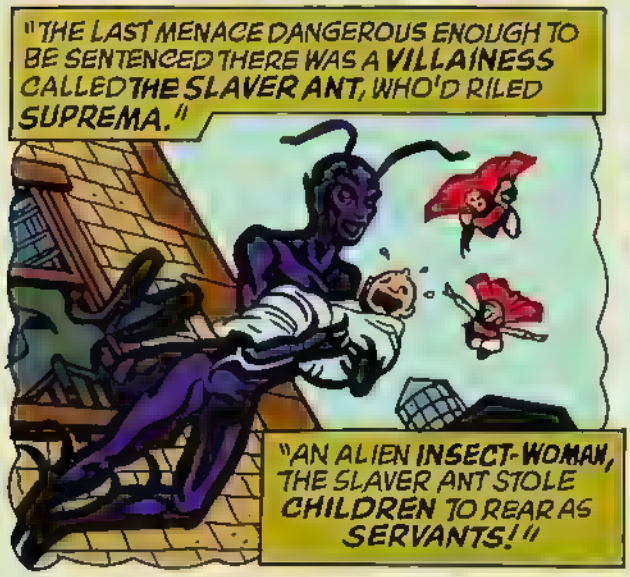
THESE AREN'T ORDINARY FUNHOUSE MIRRORS... IN FACT, THEY'RE MORE LIKE A GHOST TRAIN!
W-WOW! WHO ARE ALL THOSE SCARY-LOOKING PEOPLE?

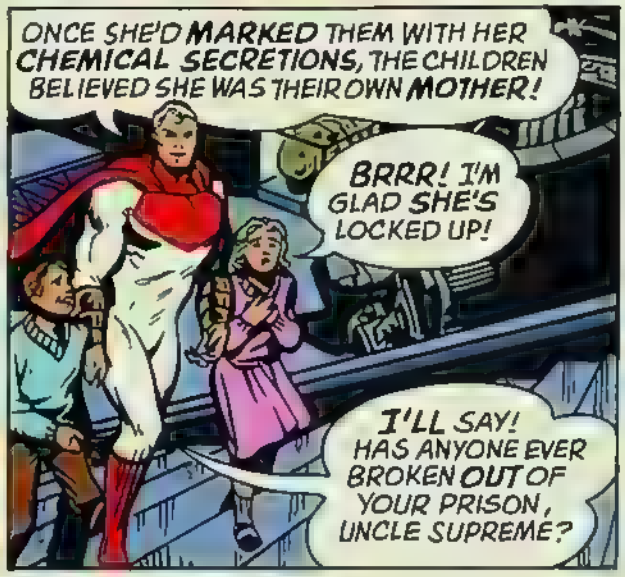
DO YOU HAVE DARIUS DAX IN YOUR JAIL?
I'M AFRAID NOT. THAT PARTICULAR ARCH-FIEND HAS ALWAYS ELUDED ME!
BESIDES, HE'S CURRENTLY BELIEVED TO BE DEAD AFTER FALLING DOWN A FISSURE TO THE EARTH'S CORE!

"THAT'S NOT TO SAY HIS CREATIONS HAVEN'T GIVEN ME PLENTY OF TROUBLE! FOR EXAMPLE, IT TOOK ME UNTIL 1958 TO TRAP THE SHADOW SUPREME."

"AROUND THAT TIME, I ALSO PULLED THE PLUG ON THE TELEVILLAIN... LITERALLY, JUST AS HE WAS ABOUT TO ESCAPE INTO YOUR AUNT JUDY'S T.V. SET!"

MORE RECENTLY, I INCARCERATED THE RELIGIOUS FANATIC OPTILUX IN THE MIRROR-WORLD. I'M NOT SURE HOW LONG IT WILL HOLD A BEING MADE FROM LIGHT LIKE OPTILUX, BUT WE'LL SEE.


"THE LAST MENACE DANGEROUS ENOUGH TO BE SENTENCED THERE WAS A VILLAINESS CALLED THE SLAVER ANT, WHO'D RILED SUPREMA."
"AN ALIEN INSECT-WOMAN, THE SLAVER ANT STOLE CHILDREN TO REAR AS SERVANTS!"


ONCE SHE'D MARKED THEM WITH HER CHEMICAL SECRETIONS, THE CHILDREN BELIEVED SHE WAS THEIR OWN MOTHER!
BRRR! I'M GLAD SHE'S LOCKED UP!
I'LL SAY! HAS ANYONE EVER BROKEN OUT OF YOUR PRISON, UNCLE SUPREME?

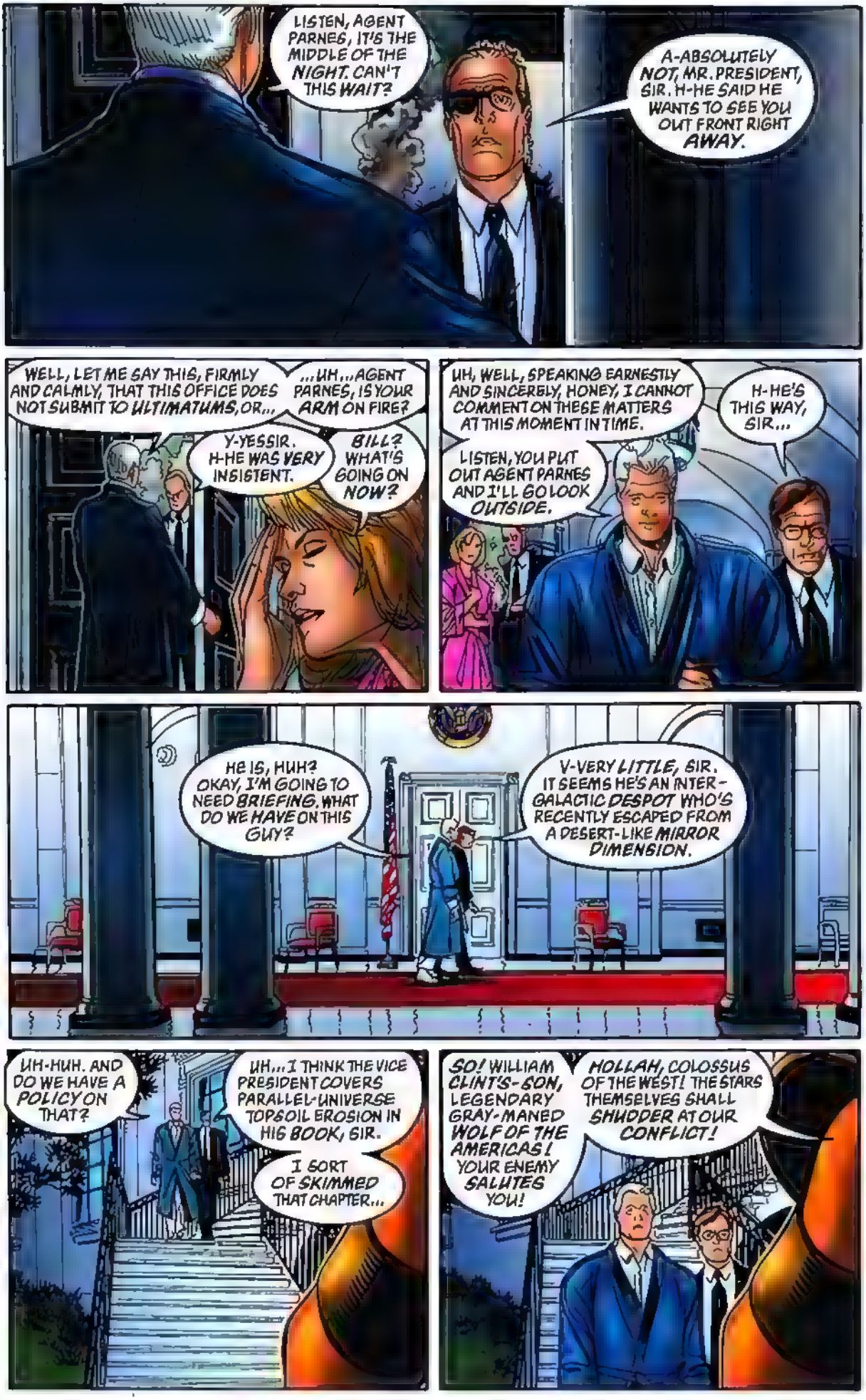
"ONLY ONCE, SO FAR, THE VILLAIN KNOWN AS THE SUPREMIUM MAN II WAS ENTOMBED THERE BRIEFLY, BUT HE TRICKED HIS WAY OUT!"
"FOR A PARDON, HE PROMISED ME A PINK VARIETY OF SUPREMIUM THAT WOULD CURE CANCER!"
I WAS A FOOL! I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN THERE WAS NO SUCH THING AS PINK SUPREMIUM!
RADAR
THE ONLY OTHER NASTY MOMENT CAME DURING A RANDOM VISIT TO EARTH BY EMERPUS, THE REVERSE SUPREME.
"EMERPUS TRIED TO UN-JAIL THE MIRROR-VILLAINS, JUST AS HE'D DO IN HIS OWN TIME-REVERSED HIDEOUT, THE EMERPUS LEDATIC!"
"IT TOOK SUPREMA AND I TO PERSUADE HIM OTHERWISE."
BOY! THAT WAS CLOSE! WOULDN'T IT BE SAFER JUST TO EXECUTE ALL THOSE VILLAINS?
THAT WOULD BE AGAINST MY SWORN OATH SU-PREME, JIMMY! I'D BE A KILLER NO BETTER THAN VOR-EM!
ALL IN ALL, THOSE VILLAINS ARE A BACKWARDS MIRROR-PICTURE OF EVERY-THING THAT'S GOOD ABOUT THE WORLD!
THINK ABOUT IT, AND YOU'LL SEE THAT MY LOOKING-GLASS LEAVENWORTH IS WHERE THEY BELONG!
I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT! THOSE CROOKS NEED TO UNDERSTAND WHAT THEY'VE DONE WRONG...
...AND THERE'S NO BETTER PLACE FOR THEM TO REFLECT UPON THEIR CRIMES!
HA HA HA!
The End.

...OF COURSE, OPTILUX MANAGED TO GET OUT IN 1965, BUT OTHERWISE MY MIRROR-PRISON HAS PROVEN ESCAPE-PROOF... UNTIL TODAY!
ETHAN, LOOK! DOWN BELOW, WHERE ALL THOSE BUILDINGS ARE ON FIRE! ISN'T THAT THE SHADOW SUPREME?
I'M AFRAID SO. WHY DON'T YOU GRAB A COUPLE OF WATER-TOWERS AND PUT OUT THIS CONFLAGRATION WHILE I HANDLE MY DARK SELF...
...OR DIE TRYING!
FWOOOSH!
ALL RIGHT, YOU ABOMINATION! THAT'S ENOUGH!
ZZZAAZZK!
RRRUUAAARRGH!
I MUSTN'T WORRY ABOUT ETHAN. HE KNOWS WHAT HE'S DOING. MY JOB IS TO CONTROL THESE FIRES!

AFTER THAT, I'M PRETTY SURE I CAN TAKE CARE OF THE OTHER REFLECTION-REALM ROGUES ON MY OWN!
I MEAN, VOR-EM, THE SLAVER ANT AND KORGO ARE TOUGH, BUT THEY'RE NOT AS PSYCHOTICALLY FEROCIOUS AS THE SHADOW SUPREME!
SHRENK!
SUPREME'S ARCH-FOES MAY BE OUT OF MY LEAGUE, BUT SECOND-STRING MENACES AND TENEMENT FIRES I CAN HANDLE!
THAT MEANS ME, ETHAN AND THE EARTH STILL HAVE A FIGHTING CHANCE, PROVIDED NOTHING ELSE GOES WRONG...
SSSSSSSSSS
...AND PROVIDED THAT MY BROTHER'S LIGHT IS EQUAL TO THE SHADOW SUPREME'S DARKNESS!
MERCIFUL MAKER OF THE STARS, WATCH OVER YOUR UNIVERSE TONIGHT...

WHAT'S THE MATTER, SUPREMA? SAYING YOUR PRAYERS?
SCARED THAT BIG BROTHER ISN'T GOING TO BAIL EVERY-ONE OUT THIS TIME?
YOU! WHERE ARE YOUR JAIL-BIRD FRIENDS, YOU RABBIT-EARED REPROBATE?
OH, HERE AND THERE. KORGO AND VOR-EM DECIDED TO VISIT WASHINGTON...
...WHILE I GUESS THE SLAVER ANT IS CHECKING OUT THE MATERNITY HOSPITALS!
TZZZZAP!
LEAPING FROM AERIAL TO AERIAL IN AN ARC OF STATIC! I'D FORGOTTEN HE COULD DO THAT!
ANYWAY, WHY BOTHER WITH THOSE LOSERS WHEN YOU'VE GOT ME?
AND THEN, OF COURSE, THERE'S THE GUEST ACT I ARRANGED OVER AT OMEGAPOLIS STADIUM...
GUEST ACT? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, YOU CATHODE CREEP?
TAKE A LOOK BELOW AND SEE!
FREEING HIM FROM HIS PRISON WAS TOUGH, BUT IT WAS ONLY AN OPTICS PROBLEM.
I'M GOOD WITH THOSE.
OH NO! NOT HERE! NOT NOW...

NOT HIM!!
Gather unto ME, my children...
we must ALL become as LIGHT!
NEXT: THROUGH A GLASS, DARKLY...


LISTEN, AGENT PARNES, IT'S THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT. CAN'T THIS WAIT?
A-ABSOLUTELY NOT, MR. PRESIDENT, SIR. H-HE SAID HE WANTS TO SEE YOU OUT FRONT RIGHT AWAY.
WELL, LET ME SAY THIS, FIRMLY AND CALMLY, THAT THIS OFFICE DOES NOT SUBMIT TO ULTIMATUMS, OR...
...UH...AGENT PARNES, IS YOUR ARM ON FIRE?
Y-YESSIR. H-HE WAS VERY INSISTENT.
BILL? WHAT'S GOING ON NOW?
UH, WELL, SPEAKING EARNESTLY AND SINCERELY, HONEY, I CANNOT COMMENT ON THESE MATTERS AT THIS MOMENT IN TIME.
H-HE'S THIS WAY, SIR...
LISTEN, YOU PUT OUT AGENT PARNES AND I'LL GO LOOK OUTSIDE.
HE IS, HUH? OKAY, I'M GOING TO NEED BRIEFING. WHAT DO WE HAVE ON THIS GUY?
V-VERY LITTLE, SIR. IT SEEMS HE'S AN INTER-GALACTIC DESPOT WHO'S RECENTLY ESCAPED FROM A DESERT-LIKE MIRROR DIMENSION.
UH-HUH. AND DO WE HAVE A POLICY ON THAT?
UH... I THINK THE VICE PRESIDENT COVERS PARALLEL-UNIVERSE TOPSOIL EROSION IN HIS BOOK, SIR.
I SORT OF SKIMMED THAT CHAPTER...
SO! WILLIAM CLINT'S-SON, LEGENDARY GRAY-MANED WOLF OF THE AMERICAS! YOUR ENEMY SALUTES YOU!
HOLLAH, COLOSSUS OF THE WEST! THE STARS THEMSELVES SHALL SHUDDER AT OUR CONFLICT!

Prologue: MR. KORGO GOES TO WASHINGTON
CONFLICT?
BUT OF COURSE! IT IS DESTINY!
THE ANNIHILATING ARCHANGEL OF ARKANSAS SHALL CLASH IN SINGLE COMBAT WITH KORGO, TRAMPLER OF GALAXIES!
HAHA! FIGHT! FIGHT! FIGHT! VOR-EM LIKE!
I, KORGO SON OF KRUGG, CHALLENGE YOU UNDER THE FORMAL RULES OF THE COSMIC DICTATORS GUILD. WHAT SAY YOU, WILLIAM SON OF CLINT?
UH... SPEAKING FIRMLY, YET FAIRLY, THAT IS AN OFFER THIS ADMINISTRATION WILL NEED TO CONSIDER...
BILL? WHO IS IT? WHAT DOES HE WANT?

NOT NOW, HONEY. WE'RE NEGOTIATING.
MR. KORGO, I HAVE TO SAY THAT YOU DON'T GET IT: THIS OFFICE DOES NOT ENGAGE IN BRAWLS ON THE LAWN!
WHAT'S THE MATTER? SCARED?
I-I SHALL NOT DIGNIFY THAT REMARK WITH AN ANSWER! THIS WHOLE THING IS JUST CHILDISH!
HE IS! HE'S SCARED! LOOK, HE'S GOING TO CRY! HE'S GOING TO RUN AND TELL HIS MOTHER!
HA! BIG SISSY! YOR-EM GAY PRESIDENT IS LIKE LITTLE GIRL!
YOU TAKE THAT BACK! THIS OFFICE WOULD LIKE TO STATE UNCATEGORICALLY THAT IT IS NOT SCARED, AND IT IS NOT GOING TO CRY!
BILL...
OH YES? AND WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT, SISSY?
YEAH! SISSY! GOT SISSY HAIR!
BILL, DON'T YOU'RE MAKING A SCENE!
SISSY, AM I? WE'LL SEE WHO'S SISSY! TAKE THAT!
HOK!

WHH...
SHLANG!
=UNHHH=
HUNH! HEAR ME, FALLEN ONE! I HAVE SEEN MOVIES OF YOUR FATHER, CLINT, LIKE "HIGH PLAINS DRIFTER"!
HE IS A BRAVE MAN! HE WOULD BE ASHAMED OF YOU!
I-I DON'T UNDERSTAND! WHAT DOES ALL THIS MEAN?
IT MEANS THAT ACCORDING TO COSMIC DICTATORS GUILD RULES, I AM AMERICA'S 43RD PRESIDENT, AND YOU ARE WIFE NUMBER ONE, MY STERN LITTLE VALKYRIE!
FIRST, PREPARE SUPPER, THEN HAVE YOURSELF PERFUMED AND BROUGHT TO MY CHAMBER.
WE HAVE A NEW DARK AGE TO CELEBRATE!

THROUGH A GLASS DARKLY...
OmegaBurger
HOME OF THE BIG O
99¢
THROK!
URRRAARRGH!

THIS IS USELESS! THE SHADOW SUPREME IS MY EVIL REFLECTION, AND WE'RE TOO EVENLY MATCHED!
IF I DON'T WANT THIS FIGHT TO GO ON FOREVER, I HAVE TO THINK OF SOMETHING DIFFERENT.
GETTING AWAY? HA! I KNEW IT! YOU FEAR ME, ACCURSED ONE!
YOU KNOW THAT THIS NIGHT, I SHALL DRINK THE MARROW FROM YOUR SPLINTERED BONES!
I'M GLAD CONFINEMENT HASN'T ROBBED YOU OF YOUR LIGHT SOCIAL TOUCH, CREATURE...
...BUT YOU'RE WRONG ABOUT MY MOTIVES. YOU SEE, I DON'T NEED TO GET AWAY.
ALL I NEEDED...
...WAS A RUN-UP!

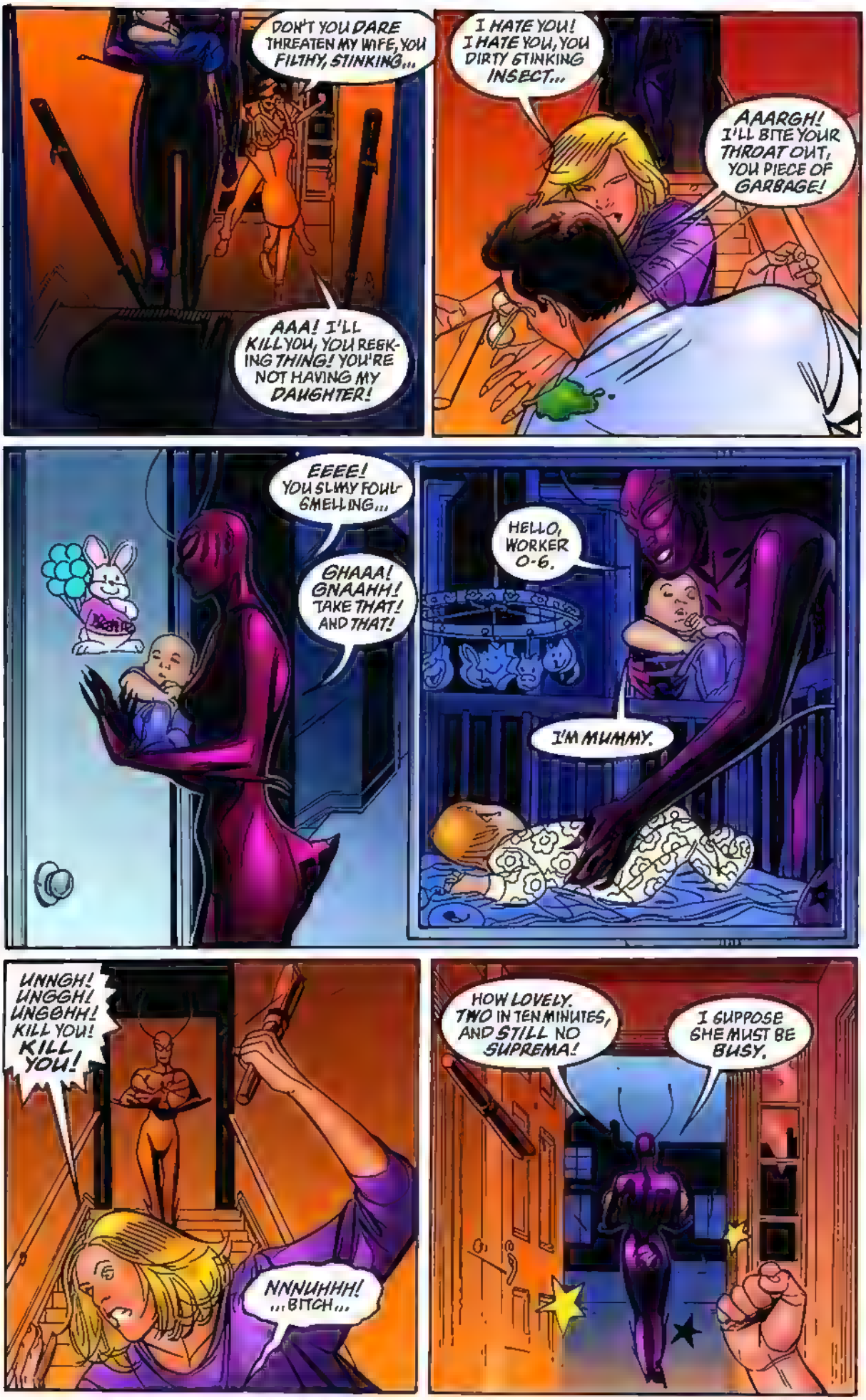
SHKOOMM
PLACE
SKRUTTO

I'VE GOT A COUPLE OF SECONDS AT BEST BEFORE HE RECOVERS.
I JUST HAVE TO MAKE SURE I DRIVE HIM DOWN HARD ENOUGH, FAST ENOUGH...

...AND FAR ENOUGH!

RRRUUURRRGH! IMBECILE! DO YOU THINK THE HEAT OF THE EARTH'S CORE CAN RE- STRAIN ONE SUCH AS I?
NO...
...BUT THE EARTH'S CENTER OF GRAVITY JUST MIGHT!
YAAAAAAA!
BY THE CORUSCATING CRAB NEBULA! HE'S PLUNGING DIRECTLY INTO THE MAD, DIRECTION-LESS STORM OF MOLTEN MAGMA AT THE HEART OF EARTH'S MAGNETIC FIELD!
THAT OUGHT TO HOLD EVEN HIM FOR A WHILE...
...WHICH MEANS I CAN TURN MY ATTENTION TO THE OTHER ESCAPED MIRROR-VILLAINS BEFORE THEY OVER-WHELM POOR SUPREMA!
HOLD ON, SIS! BIG BROTHER'S ON HIS WAY!

INTERLUDE: The Children's Hour
I JUST CHECKED ON KATIE AND SHE'S SOUND ASLEEP.
MAYBE THE NOISE WE HEARD CAME FROM OUTSIDE.
YEAH. I-IT SOUNDS LIKE A FIGHT OR SOMETHING. I'D BETTER GO LOOK...
KILL YOU! HATE YOU, YOU STINKING SCUM...
BITCH! I'LL BREAK YOUR NECK! YOU'RE NOT MY WIFE!
HELLO. YOUR NEIGHBORS SEEM TO BE HAVING A TIFF, DON'T THEY?
B-BUT THAT'S JIM AND SANDY, THE BENSONS. THEY...
WAIT A MINUTE. WHO ARE YOU?
AND ISN'T THAT THE BENSON'S SON JOEY?
OH, I DON'T GIVE THEM NAMES. THERE'S NO POINT GETTING TOO ATTACHED. THIS IS WORKER O-5.
NOW, I WONDER IF YOU'D MIND TELLING ME WHERE YOUR OWN CHILDREN ARE?
HUNH? WH-WHAT'S THAT SMELL...?
OH, THAT? IT'S MY PROPAGANDA CHEMICAL. NICE, ISN'T IT?
HELLO. YOU MUST BE THE LADY OF THE HOUSE. ARE THE CHILDREN UPSTAIRS?
B-BOB? WHAT'S GOING ON? WHO THE HELL IS..?
OH, DON'T GO GETTING UPSET. YOU'RE YOUNG. YOU'LL BE ABLE TO HAVE OTHERS.
UUGH! THAT STINKS! WHAT...?
HEY! YOU LEAVE HER ALONE!


DON'T YOU DARE THREATEN MY WIFE, YOU FILTHY, STINKING...
AAA! I'LL KILL YOU, YOU REEK-ING THING! YOU'RE NOT HAVING MY DAUGHTER!
I HATE YOU! I HATE YOU, YOU DIRTY STINKING INSECT...
AAARGH! I'LL BITE YOUR THROAT OUT, YOU PIECE OF GARBAGE!
EEEE! YOU SLIMY FOUL SMELLING...
GHAAA! GNAAHH! TAKE THAT! AND THAT!
HELLO, WORKER 0-6.
I'M MUMMY.
UNNGH! UNGGH! UNGHH! KILL YOU! KILL YOU!
NNNUHHH! ...BITCH...
HOW LOVELY. TWO IN TEN MINUTES, AND STILL NO SUPREMA!
I SUPPOSE SHE MUST BE BUSY.

SUPREMA
Gather unto ME, youth of AMERICA! I provide the spiritual FULFILLMENT that your "Pop Music" merely PROMISES! We must ALL become as LIGHT!
BY THE PRIM PLEIADES! THE MIRROR VILLAINS HAVE FREED OPTILUX, AND HE'S CONVERTING THIS BON JOVI AUDIENCE INTO PHOTONS!
BUT HOW DO I STOP HIM WHEN HE'S MADE OF LIGHT? HE'S SOLID ENOUGH TO HOLD THAT RAY PROJECTOR, BUT I FLY RIGHT THROUGH HIM!
AHH! The radiant SUPREMA joins us! Perhaps she wishes to become TRULY radiant!

THAT WAS CLOSE... BUT AT LEAST IF HE'S FIRING AT ME HE'S NOT CONCENTRATING ON THIS AUDIENCE OF RATHER BADLY-DRESSED YOUNG PEOPLE!
HMMM... COME TO THINK OF IT, THE CROWD'S FASHION-FAILURE GIVES ME AN IDEA!
WITH THIS MUCH ADHESIVE GLITTER IN THE OMEGAPOLIS STADIUM, A SIMPLE GALE-FORCE SIGH SUPREME SHOULD PROPEL IT ALL TOWARDS THE STAGE...
HEY...!
WHOAAHH! WHAT AN EFFECT!
...WHERE IT CAN PUT SOME SPARKLE BACK INTO THE LIFE OF OPTILUX!
Ghaaa! This glittery DUST! It's =TZZZK= ...scattering my SIGNAL and... =ZZIZZIKK= refracting my LIGHT!
Can't... =ZZZIT= ...hold my IMAGE together until it =FZZZIK= settles...
THE PHOTO-PLASMIC CONVERTER IS FALLING THROUGH HIS HANDS!
HE'S DROPPING IT! NOW'S MY CHANCE...

NO! GIVE it... ≥KZZATT≤ BACK to me! It is not YOURS to... ≥ZZPOKK≤... WIELD! I am the... ≥ZZZURRT≤... radiance DIVINE!
Give it BACK!
NOT YET, OPTILUX. THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT TO TRY FIRST.
SOMETHING I'M SURPRISED I NEVER THOUGHT OF BEFORE...
KLA-CHIKK
no.

SO LONG, OPTILUX! GIVE MY REGARDS TO THE LYNCH MOBS WAITING FOR YOU IN AMALYNTH!
SUPREMA! YOU'RE OKAY!
DID I HEAR YOU SAY OPTILUX WAS HERE?
HE WAS. THE TELEVILLAIN FREED HIM FROM HIS CRYSTAL.
I SENT HIM TO THE PRISM WORLD... BUT NOT BEFORE HE'D SENT A FEW HUNDRED BON JOVI FANS THERE AS WELL!
OH WELL. CAN'T BE HELPED. WHAT HAPPENED TO THE TELE-VILLAIN?
HE SHOULD STILL BE AROUND SOME-PLACE... IN FACT, THERE HE IS! SHALL I CONVERT HIM TO PHOTOPLASM?
NO. WE MUSTN'T BURDEN THE PRISM WORLD WITH MORE NUISANCES THAN IT CAN HANDLE. LEAVE HIM TO ME...
UH-OH. AND NOW A WORD FROM OUR SPONSOR...
WE'LL NEVER CATCH HIM! HE'S LEAPING FROM AERIAL TO AERIAL IN ARCS OF STATIC! THAT'S HOW HE ELUDED ME BEFORE!
OH REALLY? WELL, HE'S NOT THE ONLY ONE WHO KNOWS HOW TO HAVE FUN WITH ELECTRICITY...

...AND HE'S BEEN GIVING ME STATIC FOR YEARS.
KKRRAZZAKK
>SQREEEEK!<
NNNUHHH...
HE BLEW ALL MY CIRCUITS! I-I CAN'T NETWORK ANY MORE...
HEY, BUDDY? ARE YOU OKAY?
HEY...HEY, WAIT A MINUTE! I THINK I RECOGNIZE THAT GUY!
IT IS! IT'S HIM!
IT'S THE GUY WHO SHOT MONICA!
OH DEAR GOD...
HMM. WELL, I THINK WE CAN LEAVE MR. TUBE WITH HIS FRIENDS.
"NOBODY TOLD HIM IT WAS GOING TO BE THIS WAY..."
WAIT A MINUTE... WHAT WAS THAT? DID YOU JUST FEEL A TREMOR? IT FELT LIKE...

UUURR RRRAAA ARRGH!
FOOLS! DID YOU THINK THE VERY EARTH ITSELF COULD CONTAIN MY DARKNESS?
NOW YOU CAN PERISH TOGETHER!
SUPREME, DO SOMETHING! HE'S STRONG ENOUGH TO DO WHAT HE SAYS! HE K-KILLED RADAR...
KILLED RADAR? IS THAT WHAT HE TOLD YOU?
WHEN A DOG IS MAD, MISTRESS, YOU MUST PAY NO ATTENTION TO ITS BARK.
HUNH...?
YOU MUST BE MERCIFUL...
...AND PUT IT TO SLEEP!

Radar
The Hound Supreme
SACRED SIRIUS! THE SHADOW SUPREME MUST HAVE WRECKED A RADAR SUPREMATON DECOY, THEN LIED ABOUT KILLING HIM TO DEMORALIZE US!
WELL, WHATEVER HIS PLANS WERE, IT LOOKS LIKE THEY'VE GONE TO THE DOGS!
WRETCHED CUR! THIS TIME I GET TO DISEMBOWEL YOU FOR REAL!
}NO. I KNOW YOU. I KNOW YOUR SMELL.{
}YOU DEPEND UPON YOUR KNOWLEDGE THAT THE MASTER WOULD NEVER KILL YOU. HE IS TOO CIVILIZED. HE IS TOO HUMANE...{

...BUT I AM A DOG!
WHA...?
SHKRRD
AAAEEEE
EEEEEEEEEEE
AAAAA!
AAAGH!
OH GOODNESS!
UH...
THAT'S ENOUGH, RADAR. LEAVE HIM ALONE, NOW. DOWN, BOY. HEEL...
HE'S ESCAPING! FOLLOW HIM, RADAR! TRY TO HEAD HIM TOWARD WASHINGTON WHERE I HEAR KORGO AND VOR-EM ARE ACTING UP!
MEANWHILE, SUPREMA AND I CAN HUNT DOWN THE SLAVER ANT!
I HEAR AND OBEY, MASTER!

THERE THEY GO. WITH OPTILUX AND THE TELE-VILLAIN OUT OF THE PICTURE, MAYBE WE CAN CORRAL THE OTHERS BEFORE THERE'S TOO MUCH PUBLIC UPSET...
UH, I THINK IT MIGHT BE A LITTLE LATE FOR THAT, BROTHER. LOOK WHAT'S ON TELEVISION...
ELECTRIC AVEN
YOU'VE GOT TO GET DOWN
...A HASTILY-CONVENED PRESS CONFERENCE BY THE FIRST LADY, MS. HILARY RODHAM SPACE-TYRANT.
8 NEWS
SHE SAID THERE WERE MANY POSITIVE ASPECTS OF THE KORGO ADMINISTRATION, INCLUDING THE NEW PRESIDENT'S RADICAL VIEWS ON HEALTH CARE...
ASKED ABOUT PRESIDENT KORGO'S RECORD OF DEVASTATING ENTIRE GALAXIES AND LEAVING NO SURVIVORS, THE FIRST LADY ACCUSED THE PRESS OF BEING "TOO DOWNBEAT"...
SHE WENT ON, "AT LEAST THAT MEANS NO BIMBO SCANDALS WILL BE SURFACING."
THAT'S THE SLAVER ANT! LET'S GO!
MEANWHILE, OUTSIDE OMEGAPOLIS, AN EPIDEMIC OF CHILD KIDNAPPINGS--
...AND ALSO IN OMEGAPOLIS, HUNDREDS OF BON JOVI FANS ARE APPARENTLY DISINTEGRATED BY A MAN THOUGHT TO BE A TECHNO ARTIST WITH A GRUDGE.
THAT'S "A NATION MOURNS," RIGHT AFTER THIS...

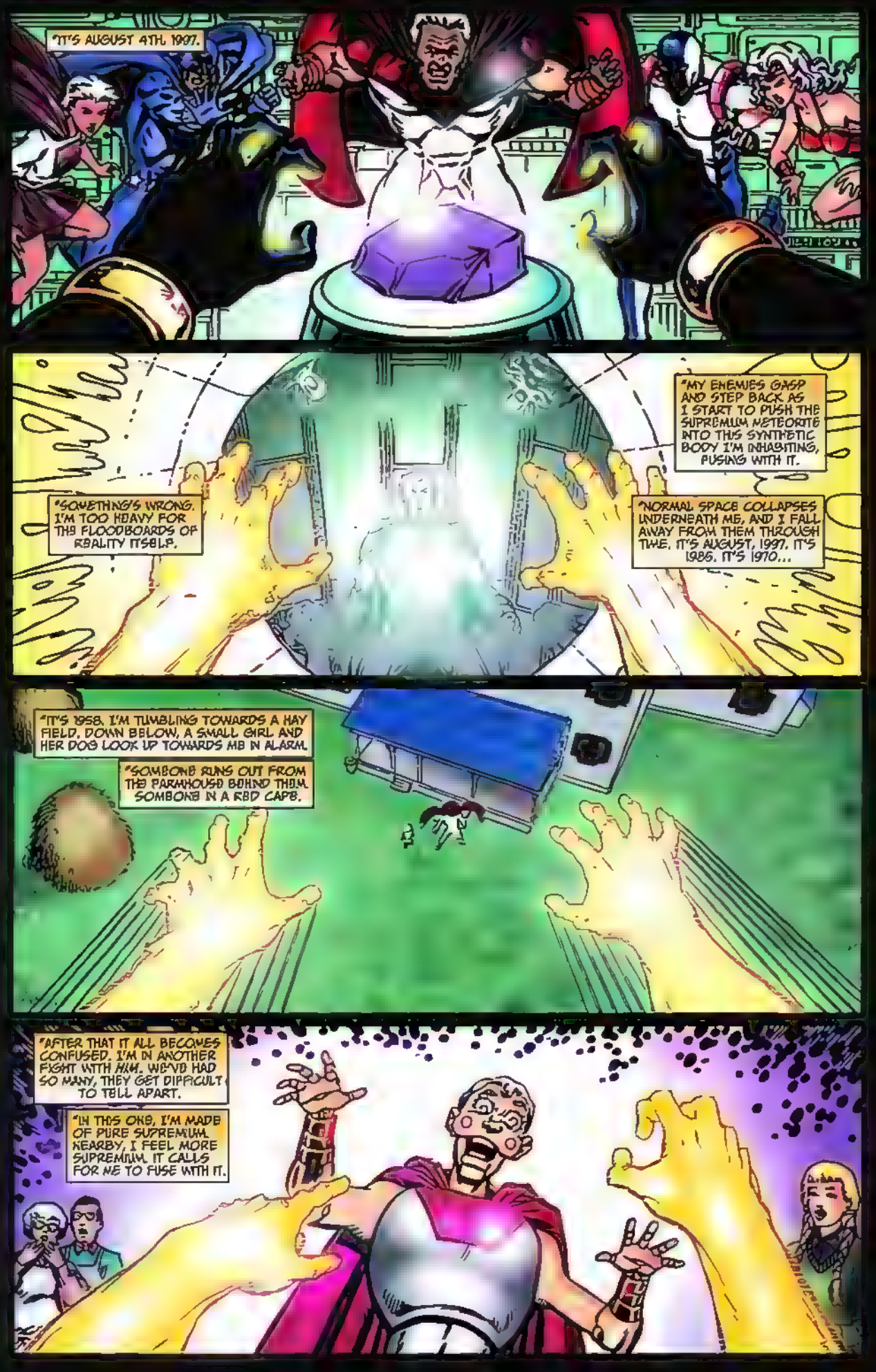
grommf
chommp
chlopff
NOW... grroff... MUMMY WANTS HER BABIES TO CHEW UP THIS OLD NEWSPAPER, LIKE MUMMY'S DOING.
MAKE IT WET, THEN SPIT THE PULP OUT, SEE? WE CAN BUILD A NICE BIG NEST FOR US ALL TO LIVE IN!
SPORTS
THIS OLD WAREHOUSE WILL MAKE A LOVELY HOME, ONCE WE HAVE OUR TUNNELS RUNNING EVERYWHERE!
AND THE BEST OF IT IS, IT'S SO WELL HIDDEN! HOW WOULD ANYONE EVER FIND US HERE?
FOUR WORDS, CREATURE ...
"SCENT SUPREME"...
...AND "FORMIC ACID."
YOU'RE COMING WITH US, SLAVER-ANT. DON'T WORRY. THERE'S NO RUSH...
YOU CAN FINISH YOUR MEAL.
BA-DA!

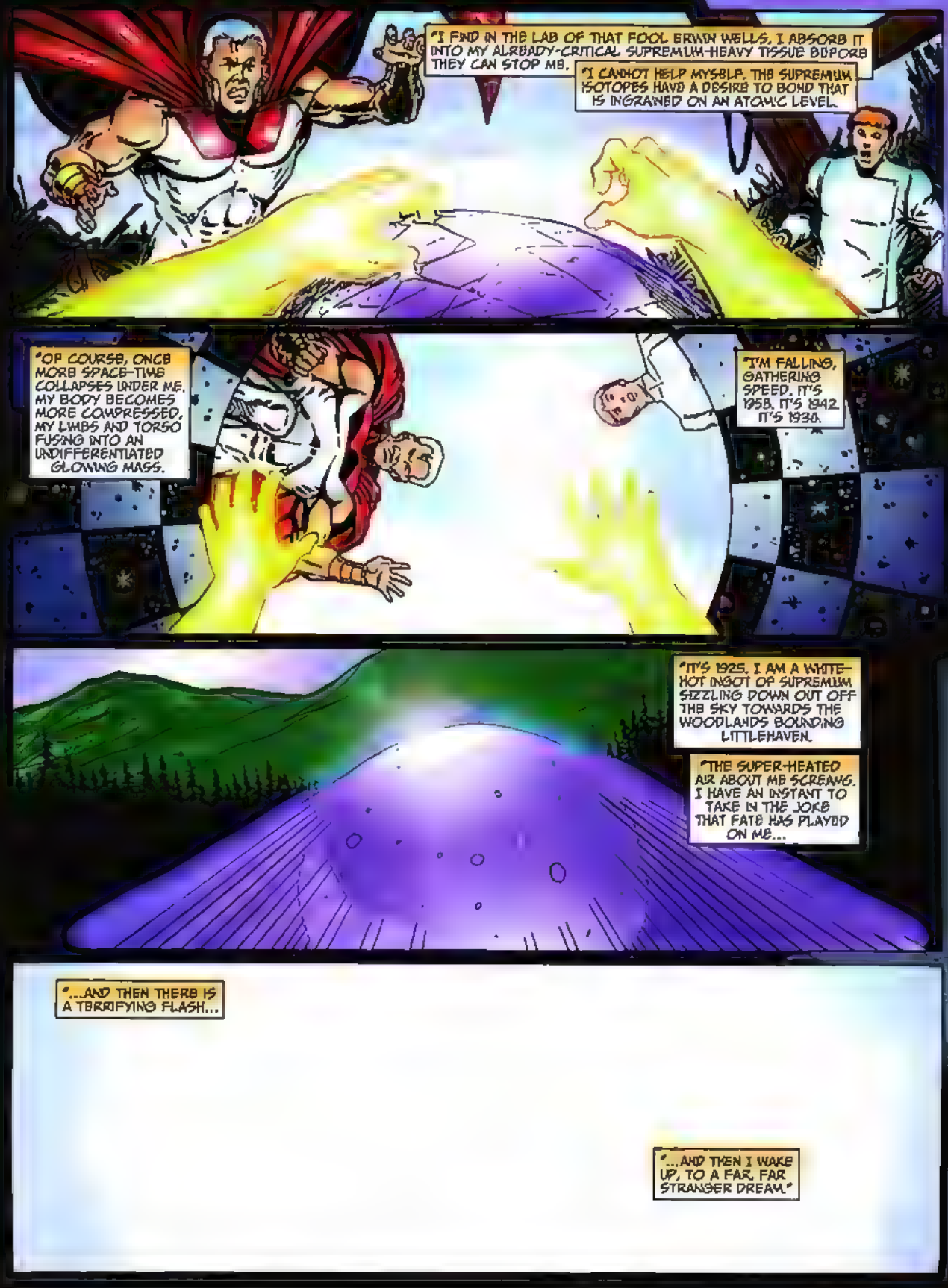
KORGO! VOR-EM!
CURSE YOU, I'm HURT! HELP ME!
HEY! WHY YOU BRING DOG HERE, FOR BOTHER VOR-EM? VOR-EM VICE-PRESIDENT NOW! VOR-EM TOO IMPORTANT FOR THIS!
HE'S BITTEN MY HAND OFF, YOU CAT-HEADED CRETIN!
WE HAVE TO FINISH HIM OFF RIGHT NOW!
SURE! VOR-EM, HE LIKE FINISH THINGS OFF! VOR-EM FIGHT RADAR! WE FIGHT LIKE...LIKE...
LIKE CAT AND DOG WE FIGHT!
JUST KILL HIM! IT'S ONLY TWO ONTO ONE! WE CAN'T LOSE!
THE HOUND SUPREME STANDS READY!
DON'T BE SO SURE OF THAT! YOU LOOK LIKE YOU COULD STILL USE A HAND...
...PARTICULARLY YOU, SHADOW-SUPREME!
AAAGH! NO! DON'T DROP ME...
HUNH? WHAT IN...?

LOOK OUT, BUG! VOR-EM CAN'T STOP! GOING TO...
NO! DON'T TOUCH ME! DON'T...
=UWWWFF=
DAMN YOU, ANT! GET OUT OF MY WAY!
HEY! WHY YOU HURT BUG? YOU SMELL BAD, SHADOW-MAN! YOU SMELL LIKE SUPREME!
YOU...YOU DOG! YOU BIT MY HAND OFF! I'LL KILL YOU!
...URRRNNNGHH...
HA! VOR-EM INDESTRUCTIBLE! VOR-EM KILL YOU, SUPREME!
YOU MAIMED ME, YOU CAPED CANINE CUR! FOR THAT, YOU DIE!
YAAA! VOR-EM ON FIRE! YOU IN TROUBLE NOW!
=HMM. THEY WILL BEAT EACH OTHER UNCONSCIOUS IN A FEW MINUTES, MASTER. HOW IS MISTRESS SUPREMA?=
SHE'S REUNITING SOME STOLEN BABIES WITH THEIR PARENTS, AND THEN SCRAPING UP WHAT'S LEFT OF THE TELEVILLAIN.
MEANWHILE, WE BETTER DEAL WITH KORGO...

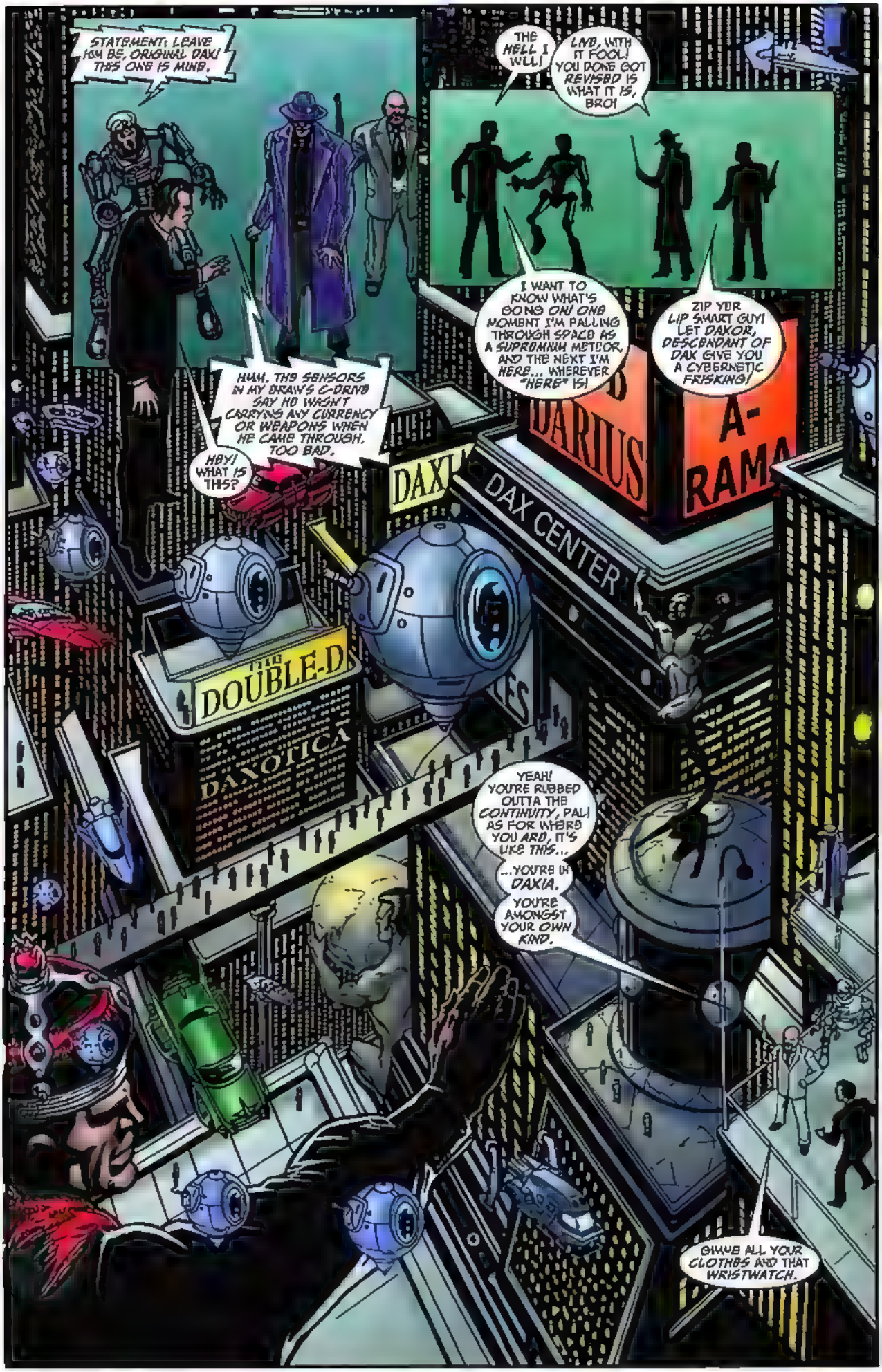
LOOK NO FURTHER! KORGO IS HERE! NEVER SHALT THOU TAKE ME ALIVE, ACCURSED ONE!
PSSST! SUPREME! SUPREME, LISTEN TO ME, I BEG YOU!
KORGO, HONEY? WHAT'S GOING ON?
JUST MAKE THIS LOOK GOOD, ALL RIGHT? THEN PUT ME BACK IN THE MIRROR... ANYWHERE AWAY FROM THAT WOMAN! GODS, I THOUGHT I WAS RUTHLESS!
PREPARE TO DIE, SUPREME!
UHH... OKAY, I SEE WHAT YOU MEAN.
RESISTANCE IS USELESS, KORGO!
UNNGH! YOUR STRENGTH SUPREME... IN KNOCKING ME SENSELESS! CAN'T... FIGHT BACK... ANYMORE...
THANK YOU, HATED ONE. KORGO OWES YOU.
AH, FORGET IT. IT'S OKAY.
THERE, TYRANT! THAT SEALS YOUR DEFEAT!
THERE! ALL TAKEN CARE OF! PRETENDING TO PLAY ALONG WITH KORGO WAS WISE, MRS. CLINTON, BUT YOU CAN REJOIN THE REAL PRESIDENT NOW!
HUH? OH, HIM. YEAH, SURE. WHATEVER.
COME, MASTER! LET US TRANSPORT THESE ROGUES TO THE CITADEL. THE MISTRESS WILL BE WAITING FOR US.

NEXT: **A WORLD OF HIS OWN...**


"IT'S AUGUST 4TH, 1997.
"SOMETHING'S WRONG. I'M TOO HEAVY FOR THE FLOORBOARDS OF REALITY ITSELF.
"MY ENEMIES GASP AND STEP BACK AS I START TO PUSH THE SUPREMIUM METEORITE INTO THIS SYNTHETIC BODY I'M INHABITING, FUSING WITH IT.
"NORMAL SPACE COLLAPSES UNDERNEATH ME, AND I FALL AWAY FROM THEM THROUGH TIME. IT'S AUGUST, 1997. IT'S 1986. IT'S 1970...
"IT'S 1958. I'M TUMBLING TOWARDS A HAY FIELD. DOWN BELOW, A SMALL GIRL AND HER DOG LOOK UP TOWARDS ME IN ALARM.
"SOMEONE RUNS OUT FROM THE FARMHOUSE BEHIND THEM. SOMEONE IN A RED CAPE.
"AFTER THAT IT ALL BECOMES CONFUSED. I'M IN ANOTHER FIGHT WITH *HIM*. WE'VE HAD SO MANY, THEY GET DIFFICULT TO TELL APART.
"IN THIS ONE, I'M MADE OF PURE SUPREMIUM. NEARBY, I FEEL MORE SUPREMIUM. IT CALLS FOR *ME* TO FUSE WITH IT.


"I FIND IN THE LAB OF THAT FOOL ERWIN WELLS, I ABSORB IT INTO MY ALREADY-CRITICAL SUPREMIUM-HEAVY TISSUE BEFORE THEY CAN STOP ME.
"I CANNOT HELP MYSELF. THE SUPREMIUM ISOTOPES HAVE A DESIRE TO BOND THAT IS INGRAINED ON AN ATOMIC LEVEL.
"OF COURSE, ONCE MORE SPACE-TIME COLLAPSES UNDER ME. MY BODY BECOMES MORE COMPRESSED, MY LIMBS AND TORSO FUSING INTO AN UNDIFFERENTIATED GLOWING MASS.
"I'M FALLING, GATHERING SPEED. IT'S 1958. IT'S 1942. IT'S 1930.
"IT'S 1925. I AM A WHITE-HOT INGOT OF SUPREMIUM SIZZLING DOWN OUT OFF THE SKY TOWARDS THE WOODLANDS BOUNDING LITTLEHAVEN.
"THE SUPER-HEATED AIR ABOUT ME SCREAMS. I HAVE AN INSTANT TO TAKE IN THE JOKE THAT FATE HAS PLAYED ON ME...
"...AND THEN THERE IS A TERRIFYING FLASH...
"...AND THEN I WAKE UP, TO A FAR, FAR STRANGER DREAM."

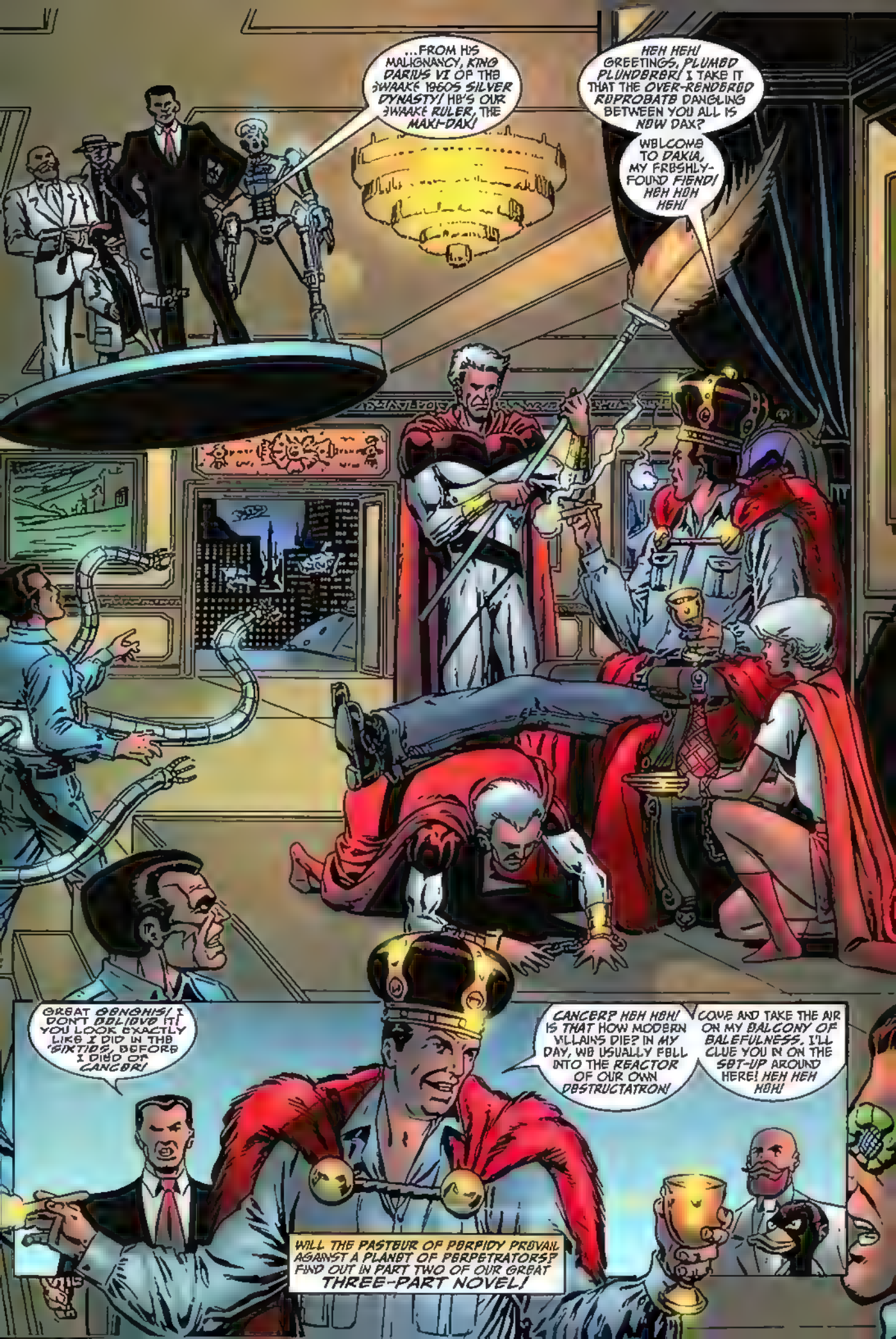
SUPREME
SUPREME'S NEMESIS:
DARIUS DAX
YO! WHAT IT IS, BROTHER! SHUB-OOT! YOU LOOK LIKE ONE CONFUSED MOTHER-HUGGER!
LEMME SET YOU STRAIGHT! I'M DELROY DAX, BUT YOU BEST BE CALLIN' ME THE DAXMAN. WELCOME TO PARADISE, BABY!
WELCOME NOTHIN', BUDDY! THIS IS A HEIST! HAND OVER YER LOOT OR I'LL PLAY YEZ A TUNE ON THIS HERE CHICAGO PIANO!
HUUHN? WH-WHERE IN THE NAME OF NEFARIOUSNESS AM I?
HOW HAS THE MARCONI OF MONSTROSITY SURVIVED HIS METEORIC MELTDOWN? FIND OUT IN PART ONE OF THIS THREE-PART CLASSIC...
A WORLD OF HIS OWN!

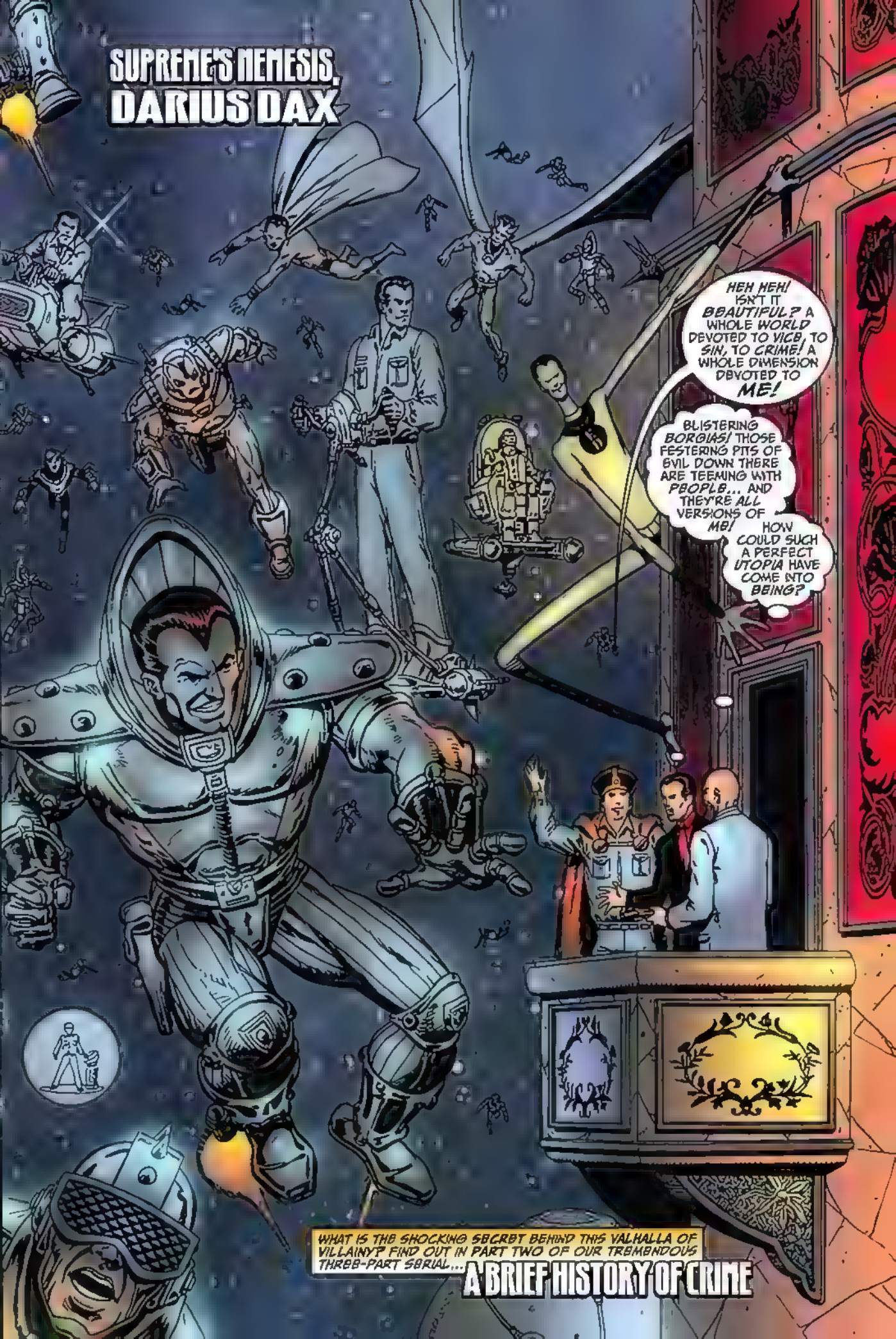

STATEMENT: LEAVE HIM BE, ORIGINAL DAX! THIS ONE IS MINE.
THE HELL I WILL!
LIVE, WITH IT FOOL! YOU DONE GOT REVISED IS WHAT IT IS, BRO!
I WANT TO KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON! ONE MOMENT I'M FALLING THROUGH SPACE AS A SUPROMIUM METEOR, AND THE NEXT I'M HERE... WHEREVER "HERE" IS!
ZIP YER LIP SMART GUY! LET DAKOR, DESCENDANT OF DAX GIVE YOU A CYBERNETIC FRISKING!
HUH. THE SENSORS IN MY BRAIN'S C-DRIVE SAY HE WASN'T CARRYING ANY CURRENCY OR WEAPONS WHEN HE CAME THROUGH. TOO BAD.
HEY! WHAT IS THIS?
DARIUS
A-RAMA
DAX CENTER
THE DOUBLE-D
DAXOTICA
YEAH! YOU'RE RUBBED OUTTA THE CONTINUITY, PAL! AS FOR WHERE YOU ARE, IT'S LIKE THIS...
...YOU'RE IN DAXIA.
YOU'RE AMONGST YOUR OWN KIND.
GIMME ALL YOUR CLOTHES AND THAT WRISTWATCH.

NEVER! I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU'RE ALL PRETENDING TO BE VERSIONS OF ME, BUT YOU'RE NOWHERE NEAR SMART ENOUGH TO PULL IT OFF!
THIS, FOR EXAMPLE, LOOKS LIKE A MOLECULAR DISRUPTOR...
QUESTION: WHAA —
CHRISTMAS ON A CRUTCH! THAT HONKY MOMMA-GLOMMER DONE GRABBED DAXOR'S PISTOL!
STATEMENT: THIS '90S MODEL VILLAIN IS DANGEROUS. HIS ALMOST COMPLETE LACK OF MOTIVATION MAKES HIM UNPREDICTABLE.
I SAY WE RUSH THE BUM! HE CAN'T DISRUPT ALL OUR MOLECULES AT ONCE!
THAT'S RIGHT... AND I'M PRETTY SURE I KNOW HOW TO USE IT! IT LOOKS LIKE BASIC 22ND CENTURY TECHNOLOGY...
DON'T BE SO SURE! WITH MY AGILE BRAIN I CAN PROBABLY INSTANTLY MODIFY THE WEAPON TO DO JUST THAT!
PERHAPS YOU DERANGED DOPPELGANGERS HAVEN'T REALISED YET, BUT YOU'RE DEALING WITH DARIUS DAK, THE DINSTEIN OF EVIL!
INDEED? WELL, I THINK YOU'LL FIND THAT IT'S ALL SWARKE RELATIVE, MY FLIGHTLESS FRIEND...
YOU MAY HAVE PULLED THE DOWN OVER THESE OTHER GUYS EYES, BUT YOU REALLY SWARKE LAYED AN EGG...
KAAH!
SHRAZZAT

...WHEN YOU CROSSED THE FLIGHT-PATH OF DARIUS DUCK, MALLARD OF MENACE!
OBSERVATION/ SUGGESTION: GET BACK, EVERYONE! IT'S HIM! IT'S THE DRAKE OF DARKNESS!
DAX DRUGS
DISCO DARIUS
...OHUH...
WELL RAISE MY RENT! YOU DONE NAILED THAT COP-SOCKER BUT GOOD! GIMME THREE, BRO!
I WOULDN'T SOIL MY ƷWAAKE STRIPEY GLOVES! YOU FEATHER-BRAINS ALMOST MUGGED THE NEWCOMER FOR HIS ƷWAAKE POSSESSIONS, WHEN HIS INFORMATION IS MORE VALUABLE!
DAXOR? GENERATE A ƷWAAKE LEVITATION FIELD, YOU EGG-SUCKING SIMPLETON!
WE MUST TAKE OUR Ʒ E GUEST TO THE DAXADROME!

AFFIRMATION RIGHT AWAY, FOWL OF FELON!
UHHH... WHAT...?
MERCIFUL MUSSOLINI! WHAT'S HAPPENING? WE'RE THOUSANDS OF FEET UP IN THE AIR!
HEY, BE COOL! DAXOR, DESCENDANT O'DAX, GOT US ALL IN HIS LEVITATION FIELD. WE AIN'T NONE OF US GONNA BE SIDEWALK-SOULPOOD!
B-BUT I DON'T UNDERSTAND ANY OF THIS! HOW CAN THERE BE A WHOLE WORLD THAT'S ENTIRELY DEDICATED TO ME?
HE WAS SQUAWKING SOMETHING ABOUT BECOMING THE SWAAKE SUPREMIUM METEOR! IT COULD BE VITAL! THE LEADER MAY HAVE TO SWAAKETORTURE HIM UNTIL HE QUACKS!
HEY! IXNAY ON THE IBLSPAY, YOUSE GUYS! IT LOOKS LIKE THIS MUG IS COMIN' ROUND!
ASSERTION SHUT THE ANIMAL REPRODUCTION UP! YOU ASK TOO MANY QUESTIONS,
DAXOR'S SWAAKE RIGHT! HERE AT THE DAXADROME YOU'LL GET ALL THE SWAAKE ANSWERS YOU NEED...
YEAH! DON'T GO GETTING IN A SWAAKE FLAP! WE'RE JUST TAKING YOU TO SEE THE PERSON HIGHEST IN THE SWAAKE PECKING ORDER!


...FROM HIS MALIGNANCY, KING DARIUS VI OF THE SWAAKE 1960S SILVER DYNASTY! HE'S OUR SWAAKE RULER, THE MAXI-DAK!
HEH HEH! GREETINGS, PLUMBD PLUNDERER! I TAKE IT THAT THE OVER-RENDERD REPROBATE DANGLING BETWEEN YOU ALL IS NOW DAX?
WELCOME TO DAKIA, MY FRESHLY-FOUND FIEND! HEH HOH HEH!
GREAT GONOPHIS! I DON'T BELIEVE IT! YOU LOOK EXACTLY LIKE I DID IN THE 'SIXTIES, BEFORE I DIED OF CANCER!
CANCER? HEH HOH! IS THAT HOW MODERN VILLAINS DIE? IN MY DAY, WE USUALLY FELL INTO THE REACTOR OF OUR OWN OBSTRUCTATRON!
COME AND TAKE THE AIR ON MY BALCONY OF BALEFULNESS. I'LL CLUE YOU IN ON THE SET-UP AROUND HERE! HEH HEH HOH!
WILL THE PASTEUR OF PERPIDY PREVAIL AGAINST A PLANET OF PERPETRATORS? FIND OUT IN PART TWO OF OUR GREAT THREE-PART NOVEL!

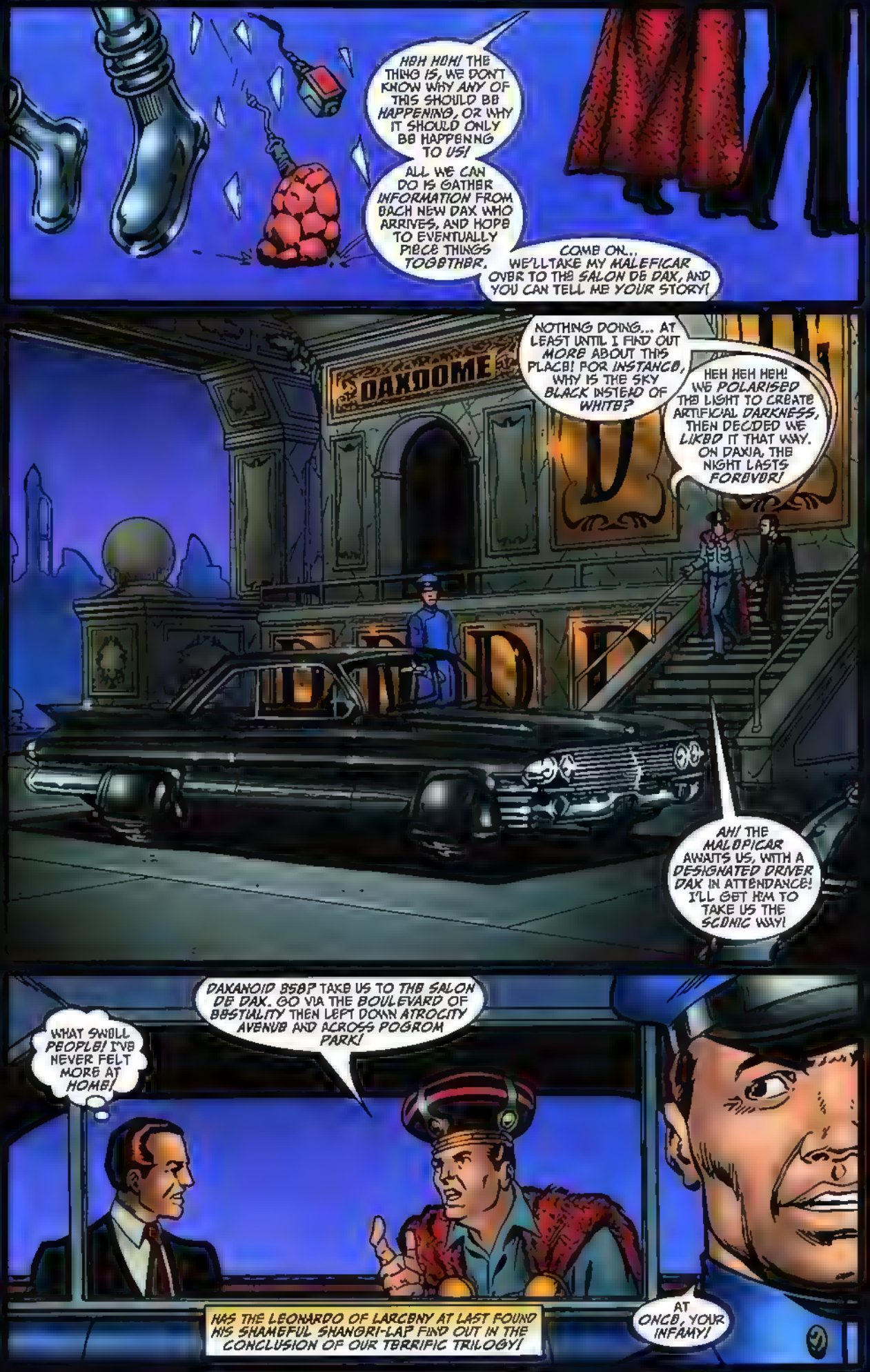

SUPREME'S NEMESIS,
DARIUS DAX
HEH HEH! ISN'T IT BBAUTIFUL? A WHOLE WORLD DEVOTED TO VICE, TO SIN, TO CRIME! A WHOLE DIMENSION DEVOTED TO ME!
BLISTERING BORGIAS! THOSE FESTERING PITS OF EVIL DOWN THERE ARE TEEMING WITH PEOPLE... AND THEY'RE ALL VERSIONS OF ME!
HOW COULD SUCH A PERFECT UTOPIA HAVE COME INTO BEING?
WHAT IS THE SHOCKING SECRET BEHIND THIS VALHALLA OF VILLAINY? FIND OUT IN PART TWO OF OUR TREMENDOUS THREE-PART SERIAL...
A BRIEF HISTORY OF CRIME

I-IT'S STUPENDOUS!
I HARDLY DARE BELIEVE THAT SUCH A THOROUGHLY MALEFIC PLACE EXISTS!
HEH HEH! IT'S SOMETHING, ISN'T IT? AND ALL THE MORE IMPRESSIVE WHEN YOU THINK THAT SIXTY YEARS AGO, THIS WAS ALL BLANK WHITE NOTHINGNESS!
YOU MEAN THERE WAS NOTHING HERE AT ALL? THAT SOUNDS LIKE SOME SORT OF LIMBO DIMENSION!
HEH HEH! YOU THINK THAT DON'T OCCUR TO US? REMEMBER, ALMOST EVERYONE HERE IS AS SMART AS YOU!
SAY! ORIGINAL DAX! COME AND TELL NEW DAX HOW THIS PLACE GOT FOUNDED!

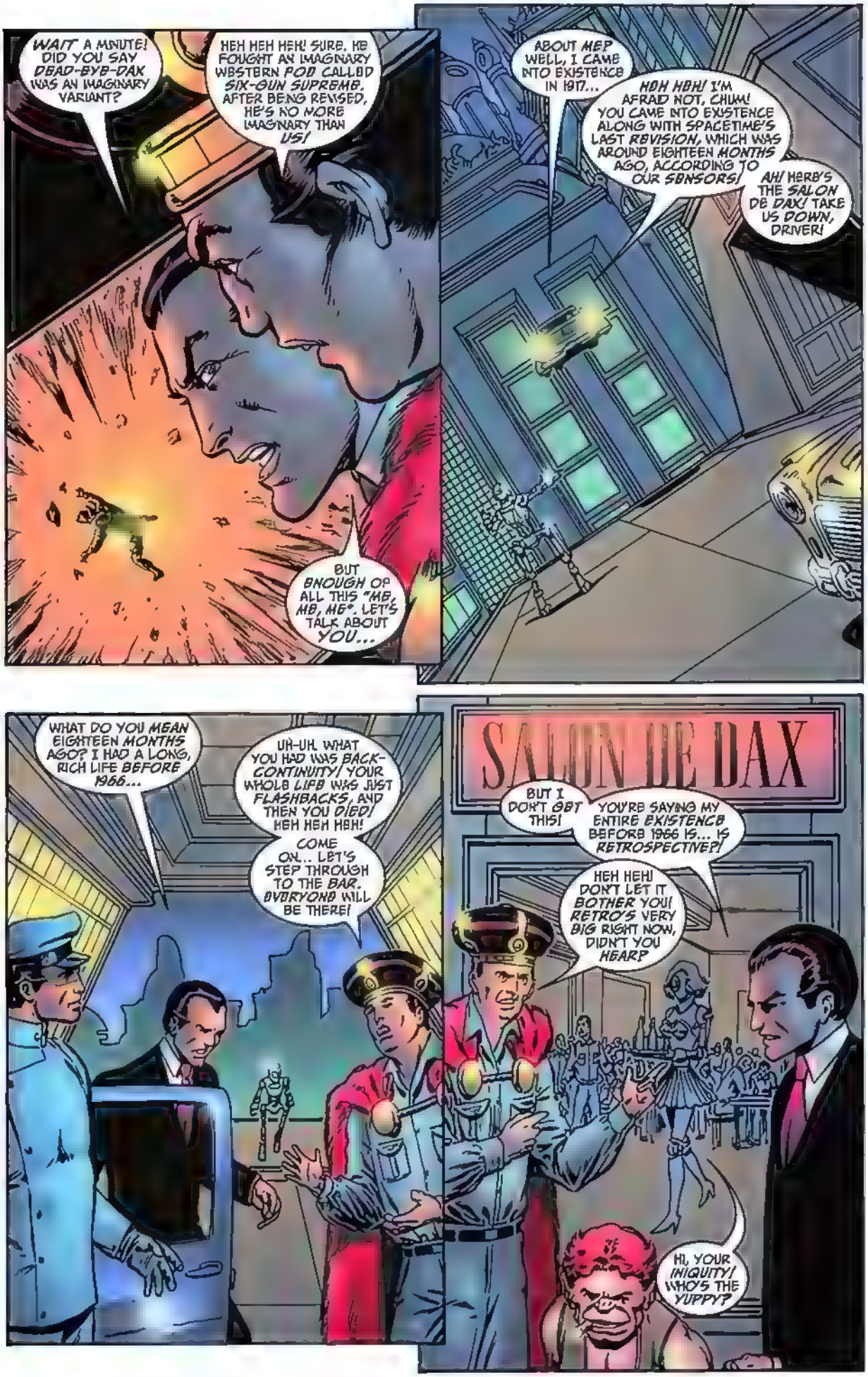
"ORIGINAL" DAX? WHAT IS THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN? AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, I'M THE ORIGINAL DARIUS DAX!
YOU AND A THOUSAND OTHERS, PAL... BUT OUR BEARDED FRIEND HERE WAS THE FIRST ORIGINAL DARIUS DAX!
WELL, SORTA. I WAS ALWAYS JUST CALLED "DAX". I DON'T REMEMBER IF I HAD A FIRST NAME...
WAIT A MINUTE! I WAS THE FIRST AND ONLY DAX, BORN IN 1917!
HEH HEH HEH! WE WERE ALL BORN IN 1917, YOU JERK! THEY WERE JUST DIPPDRONT IN 1917!
THAT'S RIGHT... AND MINE WAS FIRST! MIND YOU, I DON'T RECALL MUCH ABOUT MY CHILDHOOD OR NUTTIN'...

"...FIRST THING I REALLY REMEMBER, I WAS A CRIME BOSS IN OMEGA CITY, 1939.
"I HAD MY HIDEOUT IN THE OLD OMEGA CHEMICAL COMPANY WORKS, WHERE I USED TO MAKE BOMBS.
"PROBLEM WAS, ON MY BIGGEST JOB, I RUN INTO THIS PALOOKA NAMED SUPREME. HE'S SOME GUY GOT A MAGIC BELT BUCKLE THAT TURNS HIM INTO HERCULES!
"EVEN MY TOMMY GUN WOULDN'T STOP HIM!
"Y'KNOW, FOR THE LONGEST TIME, I THOUGHT HE'D BUMPED ME OFF AND SENT ME TO PURGATORY!
"SEE, RIGHT AFTER THIS SUPREME CONCLUDES THE CASE, EVERYTHING DISAPPEARS! I'M LEFT FLOATIN' IN A WHOLE BUNCHA NUTTIN'!
"CRAZY THINGS WAS, THERE WAS CHUNKS O' THE OMEGA CHEMICAL WORKS FLOATING THERE AS WELL!
"IT WAS LIKE ME AND EVERYTHIN' CONNECTED WITH ME GOT CROSSED OUT, LIKE SOMEBODY HAD SECOND THOUGHTS ABOUT MY EXISTENCE!"
THEN, A COUPLE OF YEARS LATER ANOTHER DAX TURNS UP TO JOIN ME, AND SO ON!
FUNNY... ALL THE REST HAD HAIR AND NO BEARDS, LIKE IT HAD BEEN DECIDED I LOOKED BETTER THAT WAY!
BUT... YOU'RE TALKING AS IF REALITY WAS SOME SORT OF STORY, BEING CONSTANTLY REVISED!
HEH HEH! YOU CATCH ON FAST, JUNIOR! ORIGINAL HERE IS A FIRST DRAFT. WHEN I TURNED UP IN '68, I WAS THE CLASSIC FORMULA!

"THE SUPREME I'D BATTLED WITH WAS AN ALIEN FROM THE EXPLODED PLANET SUPRON, WHO WAS NEARLY ALL POWERFUL! FIGHTING HIM MADE ME ESPECIALLY INGENIOUS!
"FOR ONE THING, I'D POPULATED A WHOLE PLANET, CALLED DAXANADU, WITH MALE AND FEMALE SLAVE-CLONES OF MYSELF. IT CAME WITH ME TO LIMBO.
"LOTS OF US WERE HERE ALREADY...
"...THERE WAS ORIGINAL DAX, AND NAZI MAD SCIENTIST DAX, FROM THE '40S, WITH HIS CHILDREN, DIANA AND DANNY DEAN DAX!
"THERE WAS '50S DAX WITH HIS STUPID PRACTICAL JOKES, AND DARIUS DUCK, WHO'S FOUGHT A RODENT SUPREME NAMED SQUEAK!"
"HEH HEH! POOLING OUR SCIENTIFIC GENIUS, USING THE PLANET DAXANADU AS RAW MATERIALS AND MY DAXANOID SLAVES AS A WORKFORCE, WE BUILT DAXIA!"
BUT THAT'S INCREDIBLE! HOW COME I'VE NEVER ENCOUNTERED A SUPREME WITH A MAGIC BELT BUCKLE, OR THIS SUPREME-MOUSE YOU MENTIONED?
HEH HEH! BECAUSE THEY WEREN'T PART OF YOUR CONTINUITY. SINCE THE '60S, WE'VE HAD ALL SORTS TURN UP!
DELROY DAX WAS THE ADVERSARY OF A BLACK, FEMALE SUPREME WHO EXISTED DURING THE '70S. DAXOR FOUGHT A FUTURISTIC SON OF SUPREME NAMED SUPERION...


HEH HEH! THE THING IS, WE DON'T KNOW WHY ANY OF THIS SHOULD BE HAPPENING, OR WHY IT SHOULD ONLY BE HAPPENING TO US!
ALL WE CAN DO IS GATHER INFORMATION FROM EACH NEW DAX WHO ARRIVES, AND HOPE TO EVENTUALLY PIECE THINGS TOGETHER.
COME ON... WE'LL TAKE MY MALEFICAR OVER TO THE SALON DE DAX, AND YOU CAN TELL ME YOUR STORY!
DAXDOME
NOTHING DOING... AT LEAST UNTIL I FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THIS PLACE! FOR INSTANCE, WHY IS THE SKY BLACK INSTEAD OF WHITE?
HEH HEH HEH! WE POLARISED THE LIGHT TO CREATE ARTIFICIAL DARKNESS, THEN DECIDED WE LIKED IT THAT WAY. ON DAXIA, THE NIGHT LASTS FOREVER!
AH! THE MALOPICAR AWAITS US, WITH A DESIGNATED DRIVER DAX IN ATTENDANCE! I'LL GET HIM TO TAKE US THE SCENIC WAY!
DAXANOID BOB! TAKE US TO THE SALON DE DAX. GO VIA THE BOULEVARD OF BESTIALITY THEN LEFT DOWN ATROCITY AVENUE AND ACROSS POGROM PARK!
WHAT SWELL PEOPLE! I'VE NEVER FELT MORE AT HOME!
HAS THE LEONARDO OF LARCENY AT LAST FOUND HIS SHAMEFUL SHANGRI-LA? FIND OUT IN THE CONCLUSION OF OUR TERRIFIC TRILOGY!
AT ONCE, YOUR INFAMY!

SUPREME'S NEMESIS, DARIUS DAX
HEH HEH! JUST LOOK DOWN THERE! ANOTHER SHOOT-OUT BETWEEN DAX-OF-THE-FUTURE AND IMAGINARY WESTERN VARIANT, DEAD-EYE-DAX!
IF YOU LIKE, WE COULD CALL AT MY CASINO, ONE-EYED-DAX, AND BET ON THE OUTCOME! IT'S RIGGED, NATURALLY!
SHOCKED! SUCH UNBRIDLED VICIOUSNESS! IF I HAD KIDS, THIS IS WHERE I'D RAISE THEM!
WILL THE OPPENHEIMER OF OPPORTUNISM RETIRE TO THIS RESORT FOR ROTTERS? FIND OUT, IN OUR SAGA'S CONCLUSION...
DEATH AND DAXES

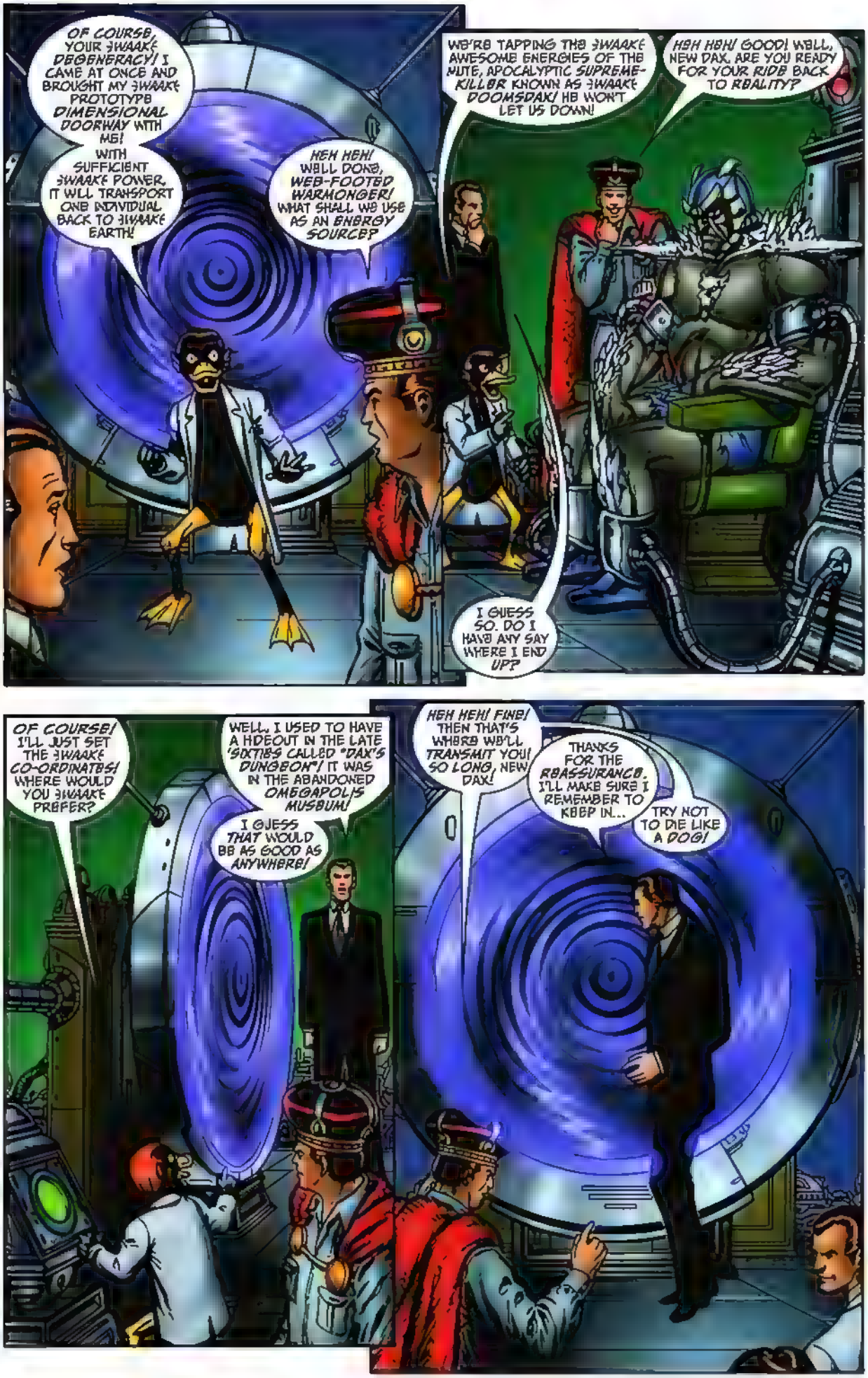

WAIT A MINUTE! DID YOU SAY DEAD-BYE-DAX WAS AN IMAGINARY VARIANT?
HEH HEH HEH! SURE. HE FOUGHT AN IMAGINARY WESTERN POD CALLED SIX-GUN SUPREME. AFTER BEING REVISED, HE'S NO MORE IMAGINARY THAN US!
BUT ENOUGH OF ALL THIS "ME, ME, ME". LET'S TALK ABOUT YOU...
ABOUT ME? WELL, I CAME INTO EXISTENCE IN 1917...
HOH HOH! I'M AFRAID NOT, CHUM! YOU CAME INTO EXISTENCE ALONG WITH SPACETIME'S LAST REVISION, WHICH WAS AROUND EIGHTEEN MONTHS AGO, ACCORDING TO OUR SENSORS!
AH! HERE'S THE SALON DE DAX! TAKE US DOWN, DRIVER!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN EIGHTEEN MONTHS AGO? I HAD A LONG, RICH LIFE BEFORE 1966...
UH-UH. WHAT YOU HAD WAS BACK-CONTINUITY! YOUR WHOLE LIFE WAS JUST FLASHBACKS, AND THEN YOU DIED! HEH HEH HEH!
COME ON... LET'S STEP THROUGH TO THE BAR. EVERYONE WILL BE THERE!
SALON DE DAX
BUT I DON'T GET THIS!
YOU'RE SAYING MY ENTIRE EXISTENCE BEFORE 1966 IS... IS RETROSPECTIVE?!
HEH HEH! DON'T LET IT BOTHER YOU! RETRO'S VERY BIG RIGHT NOW, DIDN'T YOU HEAR?
HI, YOUR INIQUITY! WHO'S THE YUPPY?

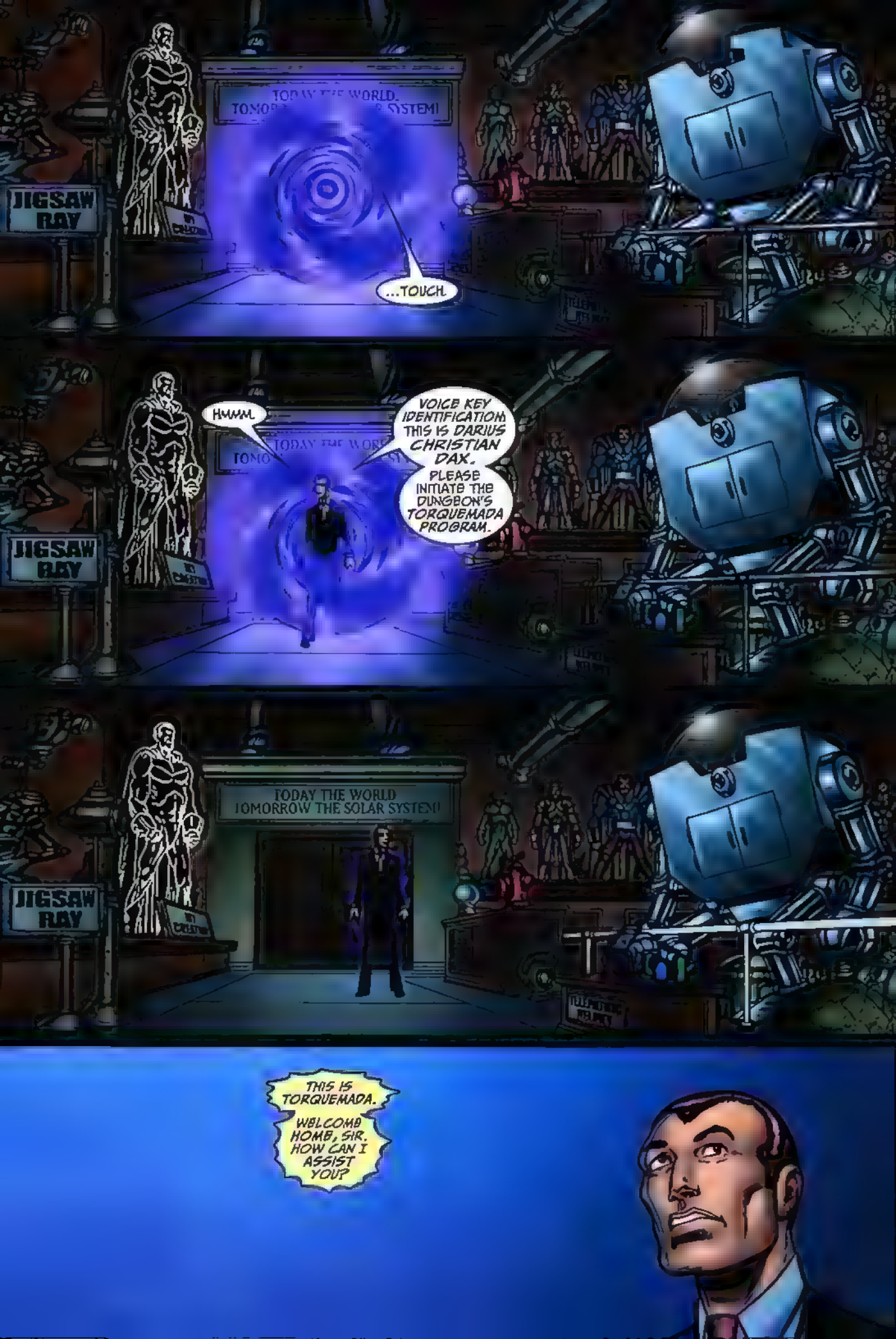
THIS IS NOW DAX! HE'S GONNA TELL US HIS STORY! ISN'T THAT RIGHT?
I -- I GUESS SO...
SCHWOINHUND! SUCH INDECISION IS NOT THE MARK OF THE MASTER RACE!
HEE HEE HEE! AND I THINK YOU'D LOOK NICER DRESSED AS A LITTLE GIRL...RIGHT BEFORE I SURGICALLY REMOVED YOUR EYEBALLS! HEE HEE HEE!
JUST IGNORE '40'S NAZI MAD SCIENTIST DAX AND GRIM '80'S TITTERING TRANSVESTITE SERIAL KILLER DAX!
TELL US HOW YOU DIED! YOU SAID IT WAS CANCER...
LOOK, IT WAS ONLY THAT FIRST TIME THAT I DIED FROM CANCER, OKAY?
DO YOU THINK A GENIUS LIKE ME LETS DYING GET IN HIS WAY?
"I RECORDED MY CONSCIOUSNESS ON MICRO-MACHINES NO BIGGER THAN DUST MOTES, HIDDEN IN A BOOK I SENT TO JUDY JORDAN...
"WHEN SHE INHALED THEM, THEY BRAINED HER MIND, AND INSTALLED MY OWN! I LIVED ON, IN JUDY JORDAN'S BODY!"
HEE HEE HEE! IF I WAS A WOMAN, FIRST I'D MOLEST AND HUMILIATE MYSELF, THEN I'D STRANGLE MYSELF WITH ELECTRICAL FLEX... SLOWLY!
PERVERTED PIGDOG! I WOULD DO MY DUTY BY THE REICH, AND PRODUCE HEALTHY BABIES!
HEH HEH! YOU MORONS MAKE ME SICK! LET NOW DAX FINISH HIS STORY!

"UH, THANK YOU. WELL, ANYWAY, I EVENTUALLY SPRUNG MY TRAP ON SUPREME, TAKING OVER HIS CITADEL AND CONDEMNING HIM TO HIS OWN MIRROR-PRISON!
"I HAD ABANDONED THE JUDY JORDAN BODY FOR THAT OF A SUPER-POWERED ANDROID NAMED MAGNO. I NEEDED IT; THERE WERE SUPER-HEROES EVERYWHERE!
"WHEN SUPREME BROKE FREE OF THE MIRROR PRISON, I BECAME DESPERATE AND TRIED TO BOOST MY POWER BY FUSING WITH A SUPREMIUM METEORITE!
"MY INCREASED MASS BUCKLED REALITY AND I FELL THROUGH TIME, BACK TO 1958. HERE, I SKIRMISHED WITH SUPREME BEFORE FUSING WITH MORE SUPREMIUM..
"NEXT, I PLUMMETED TO 1925, WHERE BY A CRUEL PARADOX, I ENDED UP BECOMING THE SUPREMIUM METEORITE THAT GAVE SUPREME HIS POWERS TO BEGIN WITH!
"THE NEXT THING I KNOW I'M HERE, BEING ROLLED BY A SINISTER DUCK!"
HEH HEH! I GUESS THE BIRD OF BRUTALITY MIGHT COME AS A SHOCK! BUT TELL US MORE ABOUT THIS SUPREMIUM...
JA! IF I COULD HAVE SYNTHESIZED IT WITH MY HEAVY WATER EXPERIMENTS, THE FUHRER WOULD NEVER HAVE LOST!
SUPREMIUM IS THE ULTIMATE ELEMENT. I ALMOST BELIEVE IT'S DIVINE...

YOU'RE PRETTY DAMN *YOURSELF*, HANDSOME! WHY DON'T WE DRIVE OUT TO *LOVER'S LEAP* AND THROW SOME PEOPLE OFF?
UHH...
DARLA DAX, YOU DEPRAVED SLUT! LEAVE NEW DAX *ALONE* UNTIL WE'VE FINISHED DEBRIEFING HIM! I DON'T CARE IF YOU *ARE* MY SISTER!
CARRY ON, NEW DAX...
UH, WELL, SUPREMIUM ALTERS REALITY *ITSELF*. I GUESS IT MIGHT EVEN BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THESE *SPACETIME REVISIONS* YOU DESCRIBE.
HMM. COULD BE! *MOST* OF US HAVE ENCOUNTERED AT LEAST A *VERSION* OF THE SUBSTANCE...
PAH! WHAT GOOD DOES *THAT* DO US? THE *VERDAMNT* EARTH IS CURRENTLY WITHOUT A DAX!
WELL, IT DOESN'T *HAVE* TO BE! COULDN'T I JUST *GO BACK* THERE?
BUT YOU'RE *DEAD* IN NORMAL SPACE-TIME! IT WOULD BE A BREACH OF *CONTINUITY LOGIC!*
IT WOULD SHATTER ALL THE *RULES* OF EXISTENCE *ITSELF!*
HEE HEE HEE! IT WOULD LEAD TO *CHAOS* AND UNIVERSAL *DISORDER!*
HMMM...

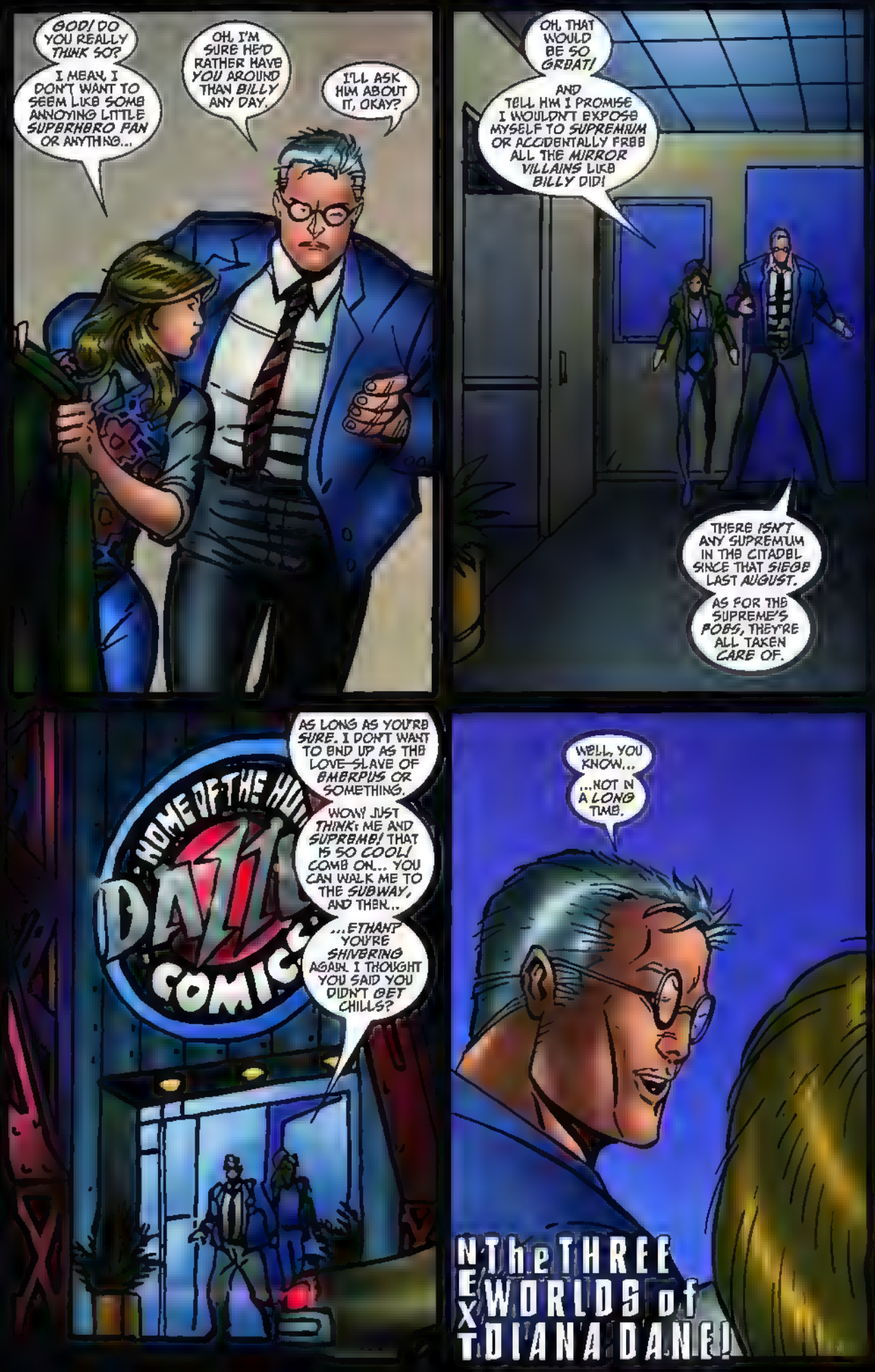
HEH HEH! LET'S DO IT! BETWEEN US WE CAN INVENT SOME SORT OF DARK DOORWAY THAT WILL LEAD NEW DAK BACK TO EARTH!
JAWOHL! WORK WILL MAKE US FREE, NEIN?
I'LL SUMMON EVERY-ONE TO THE PLAZA OF PESTILENCE... THEN WHILE THEY'RE OUT, I'LL SET FIRE TO THEIR PETS! HEE HEE HEE!
ARE YOU SURE THIS WILL WORK? I MEAN, WHAT IF SOME COSMIC LAW CAUSES ME TO WINK OUT OF EXISTENCE ALTOGETHER?
HEH HEH! WHY DO YOU THINK WE'RE LETTING YOU TRY IT FIRST?
DARLA? CALL DARIUS DUCK AND MAKE SURE HE'LL BE THERE! HE'S HAD A DIMENSIONAL DOORWAY PLAN FOR SOME TIME!
WOW! THERE SURE ARE A LOT OF US ON THIS PLAZA!
HEH HEH! ON DAKIA WE ALL HAVE IMPLANTED BRAIN TRANSMITTERS! COMMUNICATIONS ARE INSTANTANEOUS!
HEY! WE GOT A MESSAGE FROM POP SAYING SOME CRAZY CAT WAS SPLITTING BACK TO SQUARESVILLE!
NOW, DANNY DEAN DAK, DON'T YOU BE RUDE!
THE FAIR DIVINA SPEAKS TRULY! WE MUST WISH THIS PERNICIOUS PILGRIM BON VOYAGE!
JEEZ! WHAT THE HELL IS THAT UP THERE!
OH, THAT'S TREMENDAK. HE FOUGHT SOMETHING CALLED MACRO-SUPREME AND GOT REVISED AFTER ONE MONTH! HEH HEH!
AH! HERE'S THE BEAKED BANDIT NOW! YOU GOT MY MESSAGE, DUCK OF DEVILTRY!


OF COURSE, YOUR JWAAKE DEOENERACY! I CAME AT ONCE AND BROUGHT MY JWAAKE PROTOTYPE DIMENSIONAL DOORWAY WITH ME!
WITH SUFFICIENT JWAAKE POWER, IT WILL TRANSPORT ONE INDIVIDUAL BACK TO JWAAKE EARTH!
HEH HEH! WELL DONE, WEB-FOOTED WARMONGER! WHAT SHALL WE USE AS AN ENERGY SOURCE?
WE'RE TAPPING THE JWAAKE AWESOME ENERGIES OF THE NUTE, APOCALYPTIC SUPREME-KILLER KNOWN AS JWAAKE DOOMSDAX! HE WON'T LET US DOWN!
HEH HEH! GOOD! WELL, NEW DAX, ARE YOU READY FOR YOUR RIDE BACK TO REALITY?
I GUESS SO. DO I HAVE ANY SAY WHERE I END UP?
OF COURSE! I'LL JUST SET THE JWAAKE CO-ORDINATES! WHERE WOULD YOU JWAAKE PREFER?
WELL, I USED TO HAVE A HIDEOUT IN THE LATE 'SIXTIES CALLED "DAX'S DUNGEON"! IT WAS IN THE ABANDONED OMEGAPOLIS MUSEUM!
I GUESS THAT WOULD BE AS GOOD AS ANYWHERE!
HEH HEH! FINE! THEN THAT'S WHERE WE'LL TRANSMIT YOU! SO LONG, NEW DAX!
THANKS FOR THE REASSURANCE. I'LL MAKE SURE I REMEMBER TO KEEP IN...
TRY NOT TO DIE LIKE A DOG!


JIGSAW RAY
...TOUCH.
HMMM.
VOICE KEY IDENTIFICATION. THIS IS DARIUS CHRISTIAN DAX. PLEASE INITIATE THE DUNGEON'S TORQUEMADA PROGRAM.
TODAY THE WORLD TOMORROW THE SOLAR SYSTEM!
THIS IS TORQUEMADA.
WELCOME HOME, SIR. HOW CAN I ASSIST YOU?

HELLO, TORQUEMADA. I NEED TO ORIENT MYSELF. WHAT DATE IS THIS? WHAT'S SUPREME UP TO, AND WHAT STATE IS THIS DUNGEON IN?
OF COURSE, SIR. IT IS FEBRUARY 12TH, 1998. SUPREME HAS BEEN INACTIVE SINCE THWARTING A JAIL-BREAK BY THE MIRROR VILLAINS LAST MONTH.
AS FOR THE DUNGEON, I HAVE MAINTAINED ALL SYSTEMS IN YOUR ABSENCE, INCLUDING MY OWN.
FOR EXAMPLE, YOUR PERSONAL ENTRANCE TO THE LEAGUE OF INFAMY'S HISTORY HELTER-SKELTER IS WORKING PERFECTLY.
GOOD. I MAY NEED TO HOLD UP HERE FOR A WHILE UNTIL I'VE PERFECTED MY PLANS.
I SEE, I TAKE IT THAT THESE PLANS WOULD INVOLVE THE ANNIHILATION OF THE DESPISED SUPREME?
WHAT ELSE? BUT THIS TIME, I KNOW DESTINY IS ON MY SIDE! I KNOW THAT WHATEVER THE WORLD, THERE MUST ALWAYS BE A DARIUS DAX!
INSPIRED BY THAT KNOWLEDGE, I SHALL FIND SUPREME AND DESTROY HIM...
...WHEREVER HE HIDES...
WHEREVER HE BURIES HIMSELF...
...I SHALL WALK ACROSS HIS GRAVE!

BTTT.
ETHAN? WHAT'S THE MATTER? ARE YOU GETTING A CHILL?
OH, NO, NO, I DON'T GET CHILLS. JUST A SHIVER, YOU KNOW.
SO, YOU COME UP WITH ANYTHING FOR THE NEXT OMNIMAN YET, DIANA?
NOT REALLY. I DON'T KNOW... I FEEL SORT OF UNINSPIRED. I MEAN, AFTER ALL THE CHANGES BILLY FRIDAY PUT HIM THROUGH, THE CHARACTER'S NOT REALLY IN FOCUS...
MAYBE I JUST DON'T HAVE A FEEL FOR MALE SUPERHEROES.
OH, I DON'T KNOW. I THOUGHT YOU GOT ON WITH SUPREME WHEN YOU MET HIM?
OH, YEAH, SURE. I MEAN, I MET THE GUY LIKE, TWICE OR SOMETHING.
IT'S NOT LIKE I REALLY KNOW HIM OR EVEN GET TO SEE HIS CITADEL, LIKE BILLY DID!
OH, WELL, I'M SURE IF I ASKED HIM HE'D LOVE TO TAKE YOU TO HIS CITADEL. OR ANYWHERE.


GOD! DO YOU REALLY THINK SO?
I MEAN, I DON'T WANT TO SEEM LIKE SOME ANNOYING LITTLE SUPERHERO FAN OR ANYTHING...
OH, I'M SURE HE'D RATHER HAVE YOU AROUND THAN BILLY ANY DAY.
I'LL ASK HIM ABOUT IT, OKAY?
OH, THAT WOULD BE SO GREAT!
AND TELL HIM I PROMISE I WOULDN'T EXPOSE MYSELF TO SUPREMIUM OR ACCIDENTALLY FREE ALL THE MIRROR VILLAINS LIKE BILLY DID!
THERE ISN'T ANY SUPREMIUM IN THE CITADEL SINCE THAT SIEGE LAST AUGUST.
AS FOR THE SUPREME'S POES, THEY'RE ALL TAKEN CARE OF.
AS LONG AS YOU'RE SURE. I DON'T WANT TO END UP AS THE LOVE-SLAVE OF EMERPUS OR SOMETHING.
WOW! JUST THINK: ME AND SUPREME! THAT IS SO COOL! COME ON... YOU CAN WALK ME TO THE SUBWAY, AND THEN...
...ETHAN? YOU'RE SHIVERING AGAIN. I THOUGHT YOU SAID YOU DIDN'T GET CHILLS?
WELL, YOU KNOW...
...NOT IN A LONG TIME.
NEXT The THREE WORLDS of TOIANA DANE!

THERE. SEE THAT? IF YOU NOTICE, THE ENTIRE GALAXY HAS A BLUISH TINGE TO IT.
THAT'S BECAUSE ITS LIGHT IS MOVING BACKWARDS THROUGH SPACE-TIME TOWARDS THE BIG BANG.
IT'S CALLED THE BACKWARDS ZONE.
IF I INCREASE THE MAGNIFICATION ANOTHER FEW BILLION TIMES, AND IF WE'RE REALLY LUCKY...
AH! THERE HE IS! THAT'S BARRUS, THE REVERSE SUPREME.
HE'S UN-AVERTING A DISASTER BY ASSEMBLING A COMET WITH A SINGLE UN-PUNCH!
OH, I GET IT! AND NOW... HA! THAT'S INCREDIBLE! THE COMET'S FLYING HARMLESSLY BACKWARDS INTO SPACE.
THIS SPYGLASS IS REALLY SOMETHING. LISTEN, MR. SUPREME, I CAN'T THANK YOU ENOUGH FOR BRINGING ME HERE...
THE PLEASURE'S ALL MINE, MISS DANE. COME ON... LET'S TAKE A LOOK AT SOME OF THE CITADEL'S OTHER LEVELS.
OH, AND "MR. SUPREME" SOUNDS SO FORMAL. JUST CALL ME SUPREME.
OKAY... IF YOU'LL CALL ME DIANA.
I GUESS THIS PLACE ACROSS THE STAIRWELL IS A HANGER, RIGHT? WHY WOULD SOMEBODY LIKE YOU NEED A VEHICLE.
THIS IS MY SUPERMOBILE, IT CAN TAKE ME PLACES, LIKE THE HEART OF A SUPER-NOVA, THAT EVEN I CAN'T GO UNAIDED.
IT RECENTLY RETURNED FROM CARRYING MY FORMER GIRLFRIEND AND HER HUSBAND TO THEIR NEW PLANET.
THIS WAY. THERE'S A STAIRWAY AT THE REAR...

UH-HUH. AND THIS IS WHERE YOU KEEP YOUR ROBOT LOOK ALIKES, RIGHT?
JEEZ. IS THAT A ROBOT DOUBLE OF ETHAN?
UH... YES. I'M PLANNING SUPREMATON DUPLICATES OF ALL MY FRIENDS. I JUST NEVER SEEM TO GET ROUND TO THE OTHERS. MAYBE ONE DAY.
LISTEN, YOU'LL LIKE DOWNSTAIRS BETTER. MY HOTHOUSE IS JUST DOWN THIS RAMP...
GOD, IT'S BEAUTIFUL! I REALIZE THAT SUPERHEROES VISIT OTHER PLANETS, BUT I DIDN'T EXPECT ONE WHO WOULD BRING BACK HOUSEPLANTS.
THIS EX-GIRLFRIEND OF YOURS MUST HAVE HAD A SCREW LOOSE TO LEAVE ALL THIS FOR SOMEBODY ELSE.
OH, JUDY'S FINE. SHE MARRIED SOMEBODY WHO'S, UH, VERY SIMILAR TO ME IN MANY WAYS.
SOME OF THE PLANTS HERE MIGHT INTEREST YOU. THERE'S AN ARCTURAN CACTUS MADE ALMOST COMPLETELY OF VAPOR, AN ORCHID THAT'S JUST A MUSICAL PATTERN.

...AND A BED OF TELEPATHY ROSES...
...NICE HANDS AND A TIGHT BUTT. I WONDER IF...?
OH, GOD! THAT FLOWER! IT'S SAYING HALLEY JR THOUGHTS! IT'S...
LA LA LA LA! MARY HAD A LITTLE LAMB. ONE TWO IS TWO. TWO TWOS ARE FOUR.
...THREE TWOS ARE MUSTN'T THINK ABOUT THE BUTT SO. FOUR TWOS ARE...
...EIGHT AND I ESPECIALLY MUSTN'T THINK ABOUT
LISTEN, CAN WE CHECK OUT ANOTHER ROOM? I THINK THIS PLACE MAY BE AFFECTING MY ALLERGIES.
HMM. COULD BE. YOU ARE LOOKING SORT OF FLUSHED AND BREATHLESS.
LISTEN, THE PRISM WORLD CHAMBER IS RIGHT THROUGH THIS DOOR. IT'S COOLER THERE.
OH, THAT'S MUCH BETTER. THIS MUST BE AMALYNTH, WITH ITS PEOPLE TURNED TO COHERENT LIGHT BY OPTILUX!
IT'S EXACTLY THE KIND OF FANTASTIC WORLD I NEED TO INSPIRE MY WRITING!
WELL, WE COULD VISIT IT, IF YOU LIKE. I HAVEN'T BEEN THERE FOR A WHILE, BUT I STILL HAVE THE NECESSARY EQUIPMENT TO HAND.
EQUIPMENT?
YES, BASICALLY, I USE LASERS TO PROJECT COHERENT-LIGHT ICONS OF US INTO AMALYNTH.
USING A MODIFIED VERSION OF MY IDEA-SPACE IMAGING HOLMOS, OUR MINDS CAN ENTER THOSE ICONS.
GIVE ME A MOMENT TO SWITCH ON, THEN HOLD ONTO YOUR SENSES, DIANA. I PROMISE YOU THE TRIP OF A LIFETIME!

SUPREME
WHAT ADVENTURES AWAIT THE PEARL PARAGON AND HIS TIGRESS OF THE TYPEWRITER? FIND OUT IN PART ONE OF:
The Three Worlds of DIANA DANE!
TH-THIS IS AMAZING! WE'VE MATERIALIZED IN GLITTERING LIGHT-BODIES ON A BALCONY OVERLOOKING AN ENTIRE CITY OF RADIANCE!
NOT JUST A CITY, DIANA! AMALYNTH IS AN ENTIRE FLUORESCENT WORLD... AND WE CAN EXPLORE IT TOGETHER!
BUT WHAT ABOUT THIS... THIS LIGHT-HOUSE WE'RE IN? AND THIS SORT OF TWINKLY VIRTUAL CLOTHING?
WELL, I MAINTAIN PROPERTY AND A COVER IDENTITY IN AMALYTH SO THAT I CAN VISIT WITHOUT FUSS.
FOR NOW, I'M CITIZEN ROLYAT LADNEK, AND YOU CAN BE MY VISITING COUSIN ADNIL LADNEK.
COME ON. LET'S GO DOWN TO THE...

...STREET.
I'M SORRY... I SHOULD HAVE WARNED YOU THAT IN AMALYTH, EVERYTHING HAPPENS AT THE SPEED OF LIGHT.
WHOOOAH! I-IT'S OKAY. SO LONG AS THE SIDEWALK'S ONLY L.E.D., HITTING IT SHOULDN'T HURT ME!
ROLYAT! ROLYAT LADNEK! I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU IN PSEUDO-YEARS!
OH, HELLO, LUYKEN MUSPAT.
NO, I'VE BEEN BREEDING SPARKFISH OUT IN THE ULTRA-VIOLET LATITUDES.
THIS IS MY COUSIN, ANDIL. HOW HAVE THINGS BEEN IN LUMINO CITY WHILE I WAS AWAY?
PECULIAR. LAST YEAR A NIGHTMARISH FRACTAL-MONSTER INVADED BRIEFLY, THEN JUST RECENTLY, WE HAD OPTILUX HIMSELF DELIVERED TO US!
AH, YES, I HEARD HE'D BEEN SENTENCED TO HARD REFRACTION FOR LIFE IN OUR PHOTO-PENITENTIARY.
LUMINO CITY MUST DIM ITSELF TO SLEEP EASIER KNOWING A MENACE LIKE THAT IS BEHIND DAZZLE-BARS!
HUH! WE HAVE OTHER MENACES... LIKE THOSE BEAM BANDITS STREAKING BY OVERHEAD RIGHT NOW!
BEAM BANDITS, EH? THAT'S VERY INTERESTING. COME ALONG, ADNIL. WE BETTER LEAVE MR. MUSPAT TO ENJOY HIS LIGHTSPEED STROLL...
HUH? BUT SUPR... I MEAN ROLYAT, WHERE ARE WE GOING?
AND WHAT ARE BEAM BANDITS?

BEAM BANDITS CAN PHYSICALLY STEAL PAYLOADS OF INFORMATION, WHICH IS CURRENCY ON AMALYNTH...
...AND JUST BECAUSE I HAVE NO MORE POWERS HERE THAN ANY PHOTO-CITIZEN, THAT DOESN'T MEAN I CAN IGNORE CRIME!
LUCKILY, I'VE A FEW TRICKS UP MY SLEEVE... LIKE GETTING THE DEVICES BACK IN MY CITADEL TO ALTER OUR IMAGES, FOR INSTANCE...
...SO THAT I CAN BECOME THE AMALYNTHIAN CRIMEFIGHTER THAT I'VE MODELLED ON MY FRIEND PROFESSOR NIGHT.
A FEW CODE-CHANGES SHOULD CONJURE A COMPLEMENTARY LOOK FOR YOU, DIANA.
BUT... BUT I LOOK LIKE ONE OF THOSE TRAGIC GIRLS YOU SEE AT CONVENTIONS!
OH, YOU'LL GET USED TO IT.
YOU SEE, THEY DON'T HAVE NATURAL NIGHT IN AMALYNTH, SO THE CONCEPT OF BLACKNESS HOLDS EVEN MORE POWER!
YOU'LL FIND OUT WHEN WE GO INTO ACTION AS
DR. DARK & DUSKWING
THE PROFESSOR NIGHT AND TWILIGHT OF THE PRISM-WORLD.
AAAAAA!
OH GOD, I AM SO NOT READY FOR THIS!
DID YOU SAY "DUSKWING?"

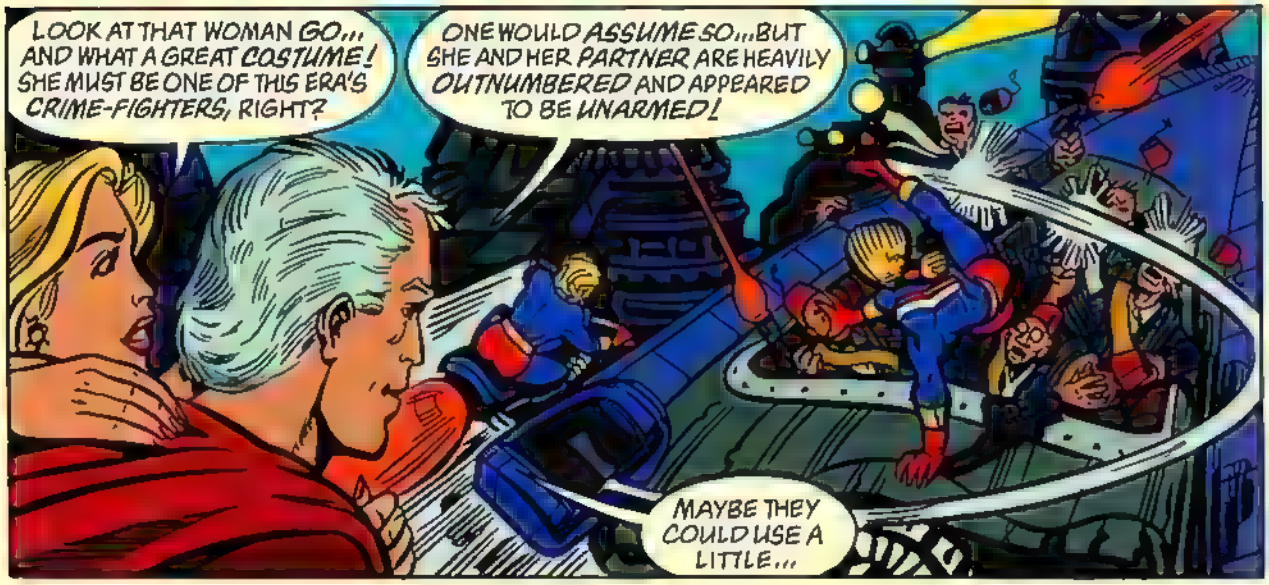
YES, I THOUGHT IT UP MYSELF. GOOD, EH?
LOOK! THERE ARE THE BEAM BANDITS UP AHEAD, CATCHING STREAMS OF INFORMATION IN THEIR DATA-BUCKETS!
UH... ABOUT WHICH WE'RE SUPPOSED TO DO WHAT, EXACTLY?
ALL RIGHT... ARE YOU LIGHT-JACKERS GOING TO COME QUIETLY, OR WOULD YOU LIKE A REMINDER OF WHO WE ARE?
LEAPING LENSES! IT'S THE DAZZLE-DAMPING DUO! I THOUGHT THEY'D RETIRED!
WHO CARES? WE CAN SWITCH THEM OFF REAL EASY! DISRUPT THEM WITH YOUR STATIC GUN!
DON'T WORRY! JUST FOLLOW MY LEAD AND EVERYTHING WILL BE FINE!
LOOK! THERE GOES DR. DARK AFTER THOSE CROOKS! HE'S RETURNED TO LUMINO-CITY AFTER ALL THESE PSEUDO-YEARS!
YES, AND HE'S GOT DUSKWING WITH HIM... ALTHOUGH DIDN'T THE ORIGINAL DUSKWING HAVE DARKER HAIR FILAMENTS?

RELAX. THE DEVICES THAT ALTERED OUR APPEARANCE CAN POLARIZE OUR LIGHT SO THAT IT'S ON A PLANE INVISIBLE TO THE AMALYNTHIANS!
THAT'S RIGHT! WE'RE CREATURES OF THE NIGHT. COME TO CAST A SHADOW ON YOUR CRIMINAL PLANS! DISARM HIM DUSKWING!
WELL, DONE! NOW SHOOT HIM WITH IT, AS A WARNING TO THE OTHERS. DON'T WORRY. STATIC GUNS AREN'T LETHAL.
WHAT, SO I JUST PULL THIS TRIGGER...?
EYAAAA!
TH-THEY'RE FADING AWAY LIKE SPECTRUM-SPECTRES! CAN'T GET A READ ON THEM!
NO! NO! KEEP AWAY FROM ME!
GREAT FLICKERING PHOSPHENES! SHE'S DISRUPTED GOMLER RNULK! WE'D BETTER SURRENDER!
THE LEGENDS ABOUT THEIR POWERS OF DARKNESS MUST BE TRUE!
UH... RIGHT. YOU MEAN LIKE THIS...?
HEY! THAT WAS EASY!
"WE KNEW YOU'D SEE THE LIGHT EVENTUALLY!"
DID THAT SOUND GOOD? YOU KNOW, AS A KIND OF JUNIOR PARTNER THING TO SAY? I JUST THOUGHT IT UP.
YOU WERE TERRIFIC.
AS FOR YOU FLUORO-FELONS, WHAT SAY I SET MY INSTRUMENTS SO WE ALL TAKE A LITTLE 186,000 MILE PER HOUR RIDE...

...TO THE PHOTO-PENITENTIARY!
BLISTERING BROWN-OUTS! DR. DARK AND DUSKWING HAVE CAPTURED THE BEAM BANDITS!
I'LL PROVIDE A PHOTO-ELECTRIC CELL FOR THEM, NEXT TO OPTILUX AND THOSE FRIGHTENING BON JOVI CULTISTS THAT APPEARED LAST MONTH!
HOW CAN WE THANK YOU, TWILIGHT TWOSOME?
IF THE LIGHT OF LAW BURNS BRIGHTER, THEN THAT'S ALL THE THANKS WE NEED!
SO LONG, FELLOWS! LOOK AFTER THOSE HOLO-HOODLUMS, WON'T YOU?
GOD, THAT WAS ORBAT! DO YOU SEE HOW I JUST TOOK THAT GUY'S GUN AWAY? IT WAS LIKE I WAS EMMA PEEL OR SOMEBODY!
WHERE NOW?
WELL, WE COULD EXPLORE ANALYNTH'S DIFFERENT COLOR-COUNTRIES OR VISIT THE SEA OF SYMPHONIES, WHERE LIGHT SLOWS DOWN TO SOUND WAVES AND MUSIC.
ALTERNATELY, IF YOUR EYES ARE GETTING TIRED, WE CAN RETURN TO THE CITADEL.
YEAH, MAYBE THAT'S A GOOD IDEA. I'M STARTING TO FEEL LIKE SOME SORT OF DAYGLO PINBALL.
CAN YOU GET US OUT OF HERE?
SURE. I'LL JUST CLOSE OUR ICONS AND SHUT OFF THE IMAGING HELMETS.
SO, WHAT NEXT? WE COULD VISIT THE TIME TOWER OF YOU LIKE...
UH... YEAH. WHY NOT? AFTER BEING A HUMAN LIGHTSHOW, I'M READY FOR ANYTHING!
DON'T BET ON IT, DIANA! MORE SURPRISES ARE COMING YOUR WAY IN PART TWO!

WHAT AN EXPERIENCE! IT MUST BE WONDERFUL HAVING A PLACE LIKE THIS ALL TO YOURSELF...
...ALTHOUGH YOUR SISTER SUPREMA LIVES HERE, DOESN'T SHE? AND YOUR DOG?
SUPREMA'S OFF HUNTING FOR THE SLAVER ANT RIGHT NOW.
RADAR SEEMED MOODY WHEN I SAID YOU WERE VISITING. I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM FOR A WHILE.
THAT'S TOO BAD, I WAS REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO MEETING HIM.
SO, WHERE'S THIS TIME TOWER YOU MENTIONED?
THE TOWER IS A STAIRWAY THROUGH TIME CREATED BY THE LEAGUE OF INFINITY. IT COLLAPSED A FEW MONTHS BACK, BUT IT'S OKAY NOW
IT'S THROUGH THIS DOOR...
THIS IS UNBELIEVABLE! DO YOU MEAN WE COULD GO DOWNSTAIRS AND WITNESS THE PAST?
WE COULD... BUT AFTER THE PARADOX PROBLEMS WE HAD RECENTLY I'D RATHER NOT.
LET ME FLY YOU UPSTAIRS TO THE FUTURE INSTEAD! THAT WAY THERE'S LESS THAT CAN GO WRONG!
HOW ABOUT THIS BALCONY, WHERE IT SAYS "2150"?
WHY NOT? I DON'T RECALL HAVING VISITED THE 22ND CENTURY BEFORE.
LET'S HOPE IT'S ONE OF TIME'S QUIET NEIGHBOURHOODS!

SUPREME, WHAT'S GOING ON? IT SEEMS AS IF WE'VE ENTERED THE YEAR 2150 IN THE MIDDLE OF A FUTURISTIC CAR CHASE!
HIT THE HYPER-THROTTLE, SPEEDGIRL!
THOSE KILLER SHRINERS WON'T ESCAPE THE FLAILING FISTS OF FIGHTING AMERICAN IV!
WHAT KIND OF TURBULENT TOMORROW HAVE THE ALABASTER AVENGER AND THE WOMAN OF WHITE-OUT DISCOVERED? READ ON FOR PART TWO OF OUR TERRIFIC TRYPTICH...
DIANA DANE'S
DYNASTIC DESTINY!


LOOK AT THAT WOMAN GO... AND WHAT A GREAT COSTUME! SHE MUST BE ONE OF THIS ERA'S CRIME-FIGHTERS, RIGHT?
ONE WOULD ASSUME SO...BUT SHE AND HER PARTNER ARE HEAVILY OUTNUMBERED AND APPEARED TO BE UNARMED!
MAYBE THEY COULD USE A LITTLE...

GIMISKIN, FIGHTING AMERICAN! NEED ANY NINE'LEVEN WITH THESE FEZBOLLAH TERRORISTS?
..HELP?
GIMISKIN, SUPREMAX... AND HELP YOURSELF!
SPEEDGIRL AND I WERE HOPING THESE TASSLE-TOPS WOULD LEAD US TO THEIR BOSS, MY OLD FOE BAXTER FRUNNT!
KILL THE INFIDELS, MY FELLOW WEARERS OF THE HOLY HEADGEAR! LET THEM HEAR OUR SACRED DEATH CRY!
OWW!
ALLAH AKBAR! ALLAH JEFF!
DON'T ADRENALATE OVER IT, F.A.! I'VE GOT YOU!
AND I'VE GOT YOU! YOUR FUNNY-HAT FATWAH ENDS RIGHT HERE!
BY THE PROPHET'S CONVENTION BADGE! IT CANNOT BE...

I'M AFRAID IT CAN.
EEYAAAAA!
KRUTTUNCH!
ZOW! THAT WAS THE DISNEYEST THING I'VE EVER NASHED!
YOU TYSONED A WHOLE SQUAD OF SHRINERS! WHAT RUBIKS ME, THOUGH, IS WHY YOU'RE WEARING A SET OF SEEKAYS JUST LIKE MINE!
IF YOU MEAN MY UNIFORM, I COULD ASK YOU THE SAME THING.
MY NAME'S SUPREME. I'M FROM THE TWENTIETH CENTURY.
SUPREME? WHAT, YOU MEAN C-20 SUPREME? ZOW, THIS IS UNBELIEVABLE! THIS IS COMPLETELY O.J.!
GIMISKIN, SUPREME! I'M SUPREMAX, GOLDEN GUARDIAN OF OMEGA-PLEX 2150!
I'M YOUR GREAT GRANDSON.
THIS IS JOANNIE FLAGG, GREAT GRAND-DAUGHTER OF THE ORIGINAL FIGHTING AMERICAN, AND HER SIDECHICK SPEEDGIRL...
W-WAIT A MINUTE! YOU SAY YOU'RE MY GREAT GRANDSON? BUT I'M NOT EVEN PLANNING ON ANY CHILDREN!
HOW TOUCHING! A FAMILY REUNION!
YEAH! AND A FAMILY FUNERAL!

CORRECT! IF WHAT WE OVERHEARD IS TRUE, THEN ONE Z-BLAST ELIMINATES NOT ONLY SUPREMAX, BUT HIS FORBEARS SUPREME, SUPREMAID AND SUPREMO AS WELL!
YEAH! DAMIEN DAX WILL PAY US PLENNY FOR DAT, AN WE GET TA KILL FIGHTIN' AMERICAN INNA BARGAIN!
IT'S BAXTER FRUNNT! WE'RE FINISHED!

WAIT A MINUTE, MR. FRUNNT? I'M A COMICS WRITER. I UNDERSTAND THESE THINGS...
LISTEN, WE'RE IN YOUR POWER, RIGHT? YOU CAN FINISH US WHENEVER YOU LIKE! WHY NOT EXPLAIN YOUR MASTER PLAN TO US FIRST?
HMM! MAYBE I SHOULD! SEE, MY BASIC PLAN WUZ...
YOUR PLAN? WHAT DO YOU MEAN YOUR PLAN?

COME ON, NOW. THERE'S NO NEED TO SQUABBLE. I'M SURE YOU'VE BOTH GOT A FASCINATING ORIGIN STORY TO TELL ME...
HA! WE SURE DO! SEE, WE'RE DESCENDED FROM ORIGINAL FIGHTING AMERICAN FOE THE DOUBLE HEADER!
ABSOLUTELY! HIS FIRST FUNCTIONAL DESCENDANT! THERE WAS OUR FATHER TWO-BUTTS, OF COURSE...

I'M SURE YOU REMEMBER HIM VERY FONDLY... BUT I'M MORE INTERESTED IN YOUR ANATOMY!
I SEE YOU HAVE TWO FACES, TWO STOMACHS, AND FOUR ARMS. AM I TO ASSUME EVERYTHING ELSE IS PRETTY MUCH WHERE YOU'D EXPECT?
UH... YEAH. YEAH, I GUESS SO. WHAT'S IT TA YOU, DOLL-FACE?
YES, WHY DO YOU ENQUIRE?

JUST CHECKING.
GHUMP!
...AND DON'T EVER TRY THAT AGAIN! I'VE HANDLED MARKETING DEPARTMENTS TOUGHER THAN YOU!
ZOW! YOUR SIDECHICK IS REALLY SOMETHING!
YAAAAA!
HUH? OH, DIANA ISN'T MY PARTNER. SHE'S JUST A FRIEND.
YAAAAAGH!
"DIANA"? NOT DIANA DANE?
GREAT VALIS, OF COURSE! THE BLONDE HAIR! SHE'S JUST HOW SHE LOOKS IN MY MOM SUPREMAID'S DIGI-VISION ALBUM!
HUH? WHAT'S HE TALKING ABOUT?
I-I'M NOT SURE.
LISTEN, YOU PEOPLE PROBABLY NEED TO TURN THESE CAPTURED CRIMINALS OVER TO THE AUTHORITIES. DON'T LET US DETAIN YOU...
GOOD POINT. AH, WELL...
KAJALAYDA, SUPREME...AND YOU TOO, MUZ DANE! IT'S NOT EVERY DAY I GET TO MEET MY OWN GRAN'CESTORS!
WAIT! WHAT DID HE MEAN? HOW DID HE KNOW MY NAME?
I DON'T KNOW... BUT I'M STARTING TO SUSPECT THAT EVEN VISITING THE FUTURE POSES PARADOX PROBLEMS...

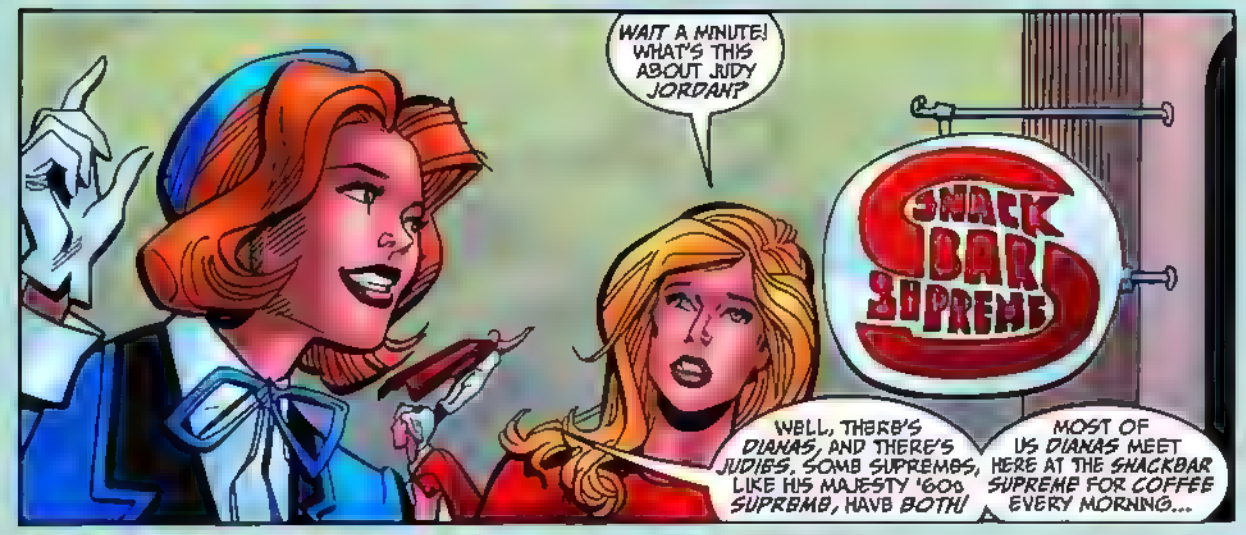
IT'S AS IF WHICHEVER WAY YOU TRAVEL, THE PAST ENDS UP KNOWING THE FUTURE'S BUSINESS.
MAYBE WE SHOULD LOCATE THE DOORWAY BACK TO THE TIME TOWER AND THE CITADEL.
O-OKAY.
SUPREME? HOW IS IT THAT YOUR GREAT GRANDSON KNOWS SO MUCH ABOUT ME?
UH... WELL, THE COMPLEXITIES OF TIME TRAVEL, UM, IT'S LIKE PARALLEL UNIVERSES AND, UH, YOU KNOW, MULTIPLE FUTURES. UH... STEPHEN HAWKING SAYS, UH...
OH! HERE'S THE DOOR TO THE TIME TOWER!
SURE WILL BE GOOD TO GET BACK TO THE TWENTIETH CENTURY, HUH?
UH, WELL, THAT WAS CERTAINLY AN EXPERIENCE. WHERE NEXT? THE NINETEENTH DIMENSION MAYBE, OR THE LOOKING-GLASS PRISON?
NO. TOO DANGEROUS ...BUT THERE'S SOMETHING I'VE BEEN BUILDING IN MY SCIENCE LAB THAT MAY INTEREST YOU!
WHAT CAN IT BE? LEARN THE SOLUTION SUPREME IN PART THREE, COMING NEXT!

SUPREME, WITH ALL DUE RESPECT, YOU WOULDN'T BE USING THIS PARADE OF WONDERS TO AVOID SOMETHING WE SHOULD TALK ABOUT, WOULD YOU?
WHY OF COURSE NOT. WHY WOULD I DO THAT?
THE SCIENCE LAB'S JUST AHEAD, THROUGH THIS HALL OF ARMAMENTS. THAT'S KORGO'S PLANET-SMASHER ON YOUR LEFT, INCIDENTALLY...
SEE? YOU'RE DOING IT AGAIN! YOU'RE...
WOW. WHAT IS THAT?
IT'S SOMETHING I'VE BEEN COMPLETING OVER THESE LAST FEW WEEKS, ALTHOUGH I'VE HAD THE IDEA FOR WELL OVER A YEAR.
IT'S KNOWN AS A GOLDEN GATE.
A-AND WHAT'S ON THE OTHER SIDE?
SOMEWHERE VERY SPECIAL. A PLACE THAT I MYSELF HAVE VISITED JUST ONCE BEFORE...SHORTLY BEFORE I FIRST MET YOU, AS A MATTER OF FACT.
I'VE FINALLY MANAGED TO DUPLICATE THE MECHANISM THAT WILL TAKE US THERE. COME. DON'T BE AFRAID...
...JUST BE READY FOR A SOLJOURN SUPREME!

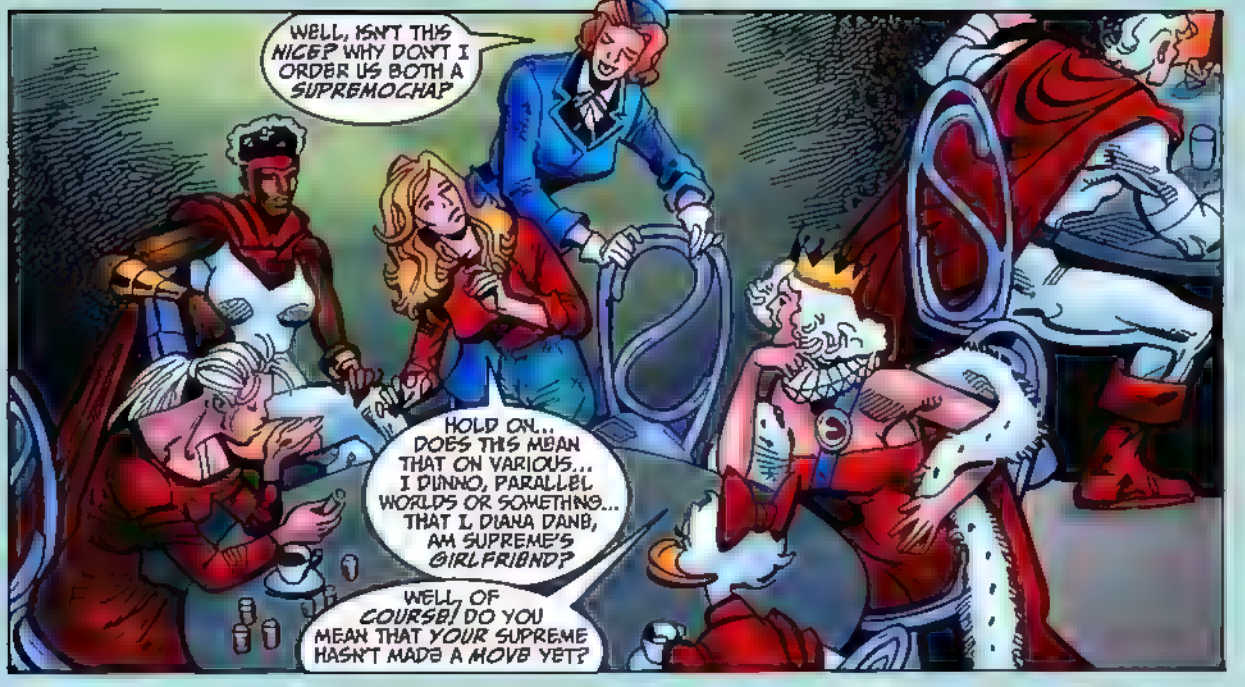
SUPREME
HOW WILL OUR PRINCESS OF PUNCTUATION FARE IN A PERFECT PARA-HUMAN PARADISE? FIND OUT IN OUR NOVEL'S FINAL CHAPTER...
City of Sweethearts!
OH MY GOD, WHERE ARE WE? SOME KIND OF THEME UNIVERSE?
)CHUCKLE(I GUESS YOU COULD SAY THAT! WE'RE IN A PLACE WHERE SUPREMES GO WHEN THEY'RE CANCELLED FROM EXISTANCE.
IT'S CALLED THE SUPREMACY!
WHEN YOU SAY "CANCELLED" YOU MEAN THEY DIE, RIGHT? D-DOES THAT MEAN THIS IS THE AFTERLIFE?
IT'S MORE COMPLICATED THAN THAT. IT'S TO DO WITH PERIODIC CHANGES IN SPACETIME KNOWN AS REVISIONS...
SAY, LOOK DOWN THERE! I THINK THAT'S SOMEONE I KNOW!

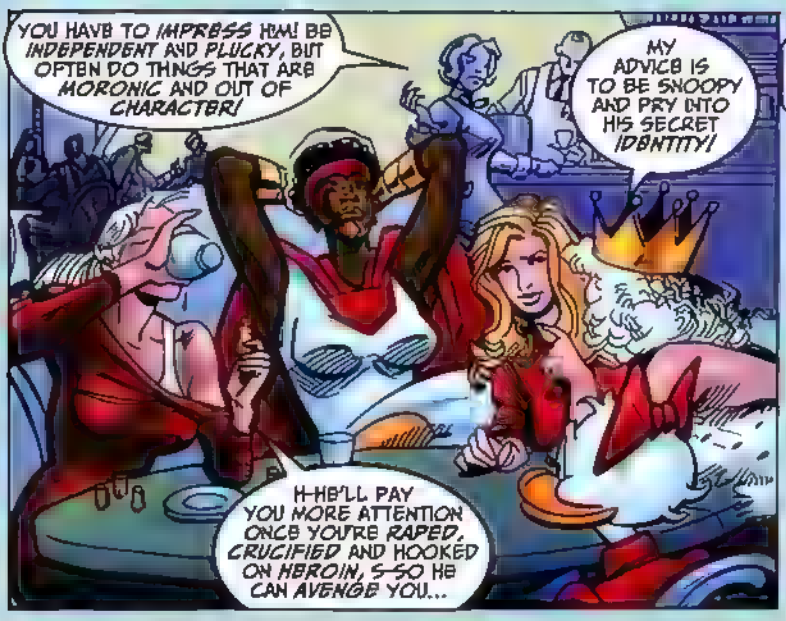
HI! '90s SUPREME, RIGHT?
I DON'T KNOW IF YOU REMEMBER ME, BUT I'M "NEW" SUPREME! I WAS HERE EIGHTEEN MONTHS BACK...
SURE I REMEMBER! SO, DID YOU GET REVISED ALREADY?
UH, SORRY ABOUT THE ANT'S HEAD, BY THE WAY. ACCIDENT WITH MY MEDICATION.
NO PROBLEM... AND NO, I WASN'T REVISED, I'M JUST VISITING.
THIS IS MY FRIEND. HER NAME'S DIANA DANE.
WELL, OF COURSE. WHAT ELSE WOULD IT BE?
SHUT UP, YOU INSENSITIVE LUG! CAN'T YOU SEE SHE'S NEW TO ALL THIS? PLEASED TO MEET YOU, SWEETHEART. I'M DIANA DANE.
YOUR NAME IS DIANA DANE TOO?
HONEY, I AM DIANA DANE. I'M '90s DIANA. WHY NOT HANG OUT WITH ME AND THE GIRLS FOR A WHILE? WE'LL EXPLAIN EVERYTHING!
GREAT IDEA! I WAS HEADING OVER TO SQUEAK'S PLACE TO WATCH THE SUPREME-BOWL. COMING, NEW SUPREME?
UH... WELL, IF DIANA WILL BE OKAY...
SHE'LL BE FINE. LISTEN, LET'S HURRY OVER TO SQUEAK'S. I CAN PEEL THIS SUPREMIUM WEARING OFF, AND I, UH, NEED TO USE THE BATHROOM.
MEN! ALL THEY WANT IS SOFAS, SPORTS, AND A SUPREMIUM SIX-PACK!
COME ON, NEW DIANA! LET'S HIT THE SUPREMALL!

BUT I DON'T GET IT. HOW CAN YOU BE A FIFTIES VERSION OF ME?
I'M NOT. YOU'RE A NINETIES VERSION OF ME!
YOU SEE, I'M THE VERY FIRST DIANA DANE. ORIGINAL SUPREME, WHO PRECEDED MY HUBBY, ONLY HAD A JUDY JORDAN!
LET'S GO MEET THE OTHERS. THEN YOU'LL UNDERSTAND.
SUPREMALL
SUPREMARKET


WAIT A MINUTE! WHAT'S THIS ABOUT JUDY JORDAN?
SNACK BAR SUPREME
WELL, THERE'S DIANAS, AND THERE'S JUDIES. SOME SUPREMES, LIKE HIS MAJESTY '60s SUPREME, HAVE BOTH!
MOST OF US DIANAS MEET HERE AT THE SNACKBAR SUPREME FOR COFFEE EVERY MORNING...

JEEPERS H. CHRISTMAS ON A CRUTCH! IF IT AIN'T DIANA! WHAT'S HAPPENING, CHILE?
OH, HI DIANA! LISTEN, GIRLS, I'VE GOT A NEW DIANA TO INTRODUCE!
NEW DIANA, MEET DIANA (SISTER SUPREME) DANE, FROM THE '70s; HER MAJESTY QUEEN DIANA FROM THE '60s; TRAUMATIZED GRIM '80s DIANA, AND FINALLY DIANA DUCK!
WELCOME TO THE SNAKE POND, NEW DIANA! YOU'RE SNAKE DOWN WITH US!


WELL, ISN'T THIS NICE? WHY DON'T I ORDER US BOTH A SUPREMOCHAP
HOLD ON... DOES THIS MEAN THAT ON VARIOUS... I DUNNO, PARALLEL WORLDS OR SOMETHING... THAT I, DIANA DANE, AM SUPREME'S GIRLFRIEND?
WELL, OF COURSE! DO YOU MEAN THAT YOUR SUPREME HASN'T MADE A MOVE YET?


YOU HAVE TO IMPRESS HIM! BE INDEPENDENT AND PLUCKY, BUT OFTEN DO THINGS THAT ARE MORONIC AND OUT OF CHARACTER!
MY ADVICE IS TO BE SNOOPY AND PRY INTO HIS SECRET IDENTITY!
H-HE'LL PAY YOU MORE ATTENTION ONCE YOU'RE RAPED, CRUCIFIED AND HOOKED ON HEROIN, S-SO HE CAN AVENGE YOU...

UH... BUT AREN'T THOSE SORT OF NEGATIVE IMAGES OF WOMEN?
IT'S WHAT PEOPLE WANT! NOBODY LIKES STRONG CAPABLE WOMEN.
SISTER SUPREME'S CAREER LASTED THREE MONTHS BEFORE SHE WAS REVISED!
THAT'S N-NOTHING! THEY HAD A PHONE-IN TO DECIDE WHETHER SERIAL-MURDERING TRANSVESTITE EIGHTIES DAX SHOULD K-KILL ME OR JUST TORTURE ME!

IGNORE ALL THIS ƷWAAKE GROUSING! TO KEEP YOUR MAN, DO WHAT ƷWAAKE I DO: WEAR A BIG HAIRBOW AND NO PANTS!
NOW, WHO'S COMING ƷWAAKE SHOPPING?
RIGHT ON! LATER FO' THIS SOUL-SEARCHING BULLSHOOT! WHERE'S MY SUPREMASTERCARD?
COME ON, NEW DIANA! WE'LL TAKE YOU ON A SPENDING SPREE SUPREME!

AND SO...
THANKS FOR ESCORTING ME BACK HERE, SQUBAK, AND FOR SHOWING ME YOUR SKATING BOARD SUPREME!
I WONDER WHERE THE DIANAS ARE? I EXPECTED THEM TO MEET US HERE...
ISN'T ZYEEKE THAT THEM, HEADING THIS WAY NOW? AND THEY'VE GOT MY OWN ZYOOKE TUFTY-TAILED TEMPRESS WITH THEM!
UH, HI DIANA. DID YOU HAVE A GOOD TIME?
WELL, IT WAS SORT OF WEIRD, BUT THE DIANAS BOUGHT ME ALL THIS NEAT STUFF! I GOT A SPECTRAL-ZONE NEOLIGEE, AND A SIGNAL-WATCH!
WHOA! WHERE'S MY PIPTIBS SUPREME? HE BETTER NOT HAVE TAKEN ANOTHER BELT OF SUPREMIUM!
UH... SINCE YOU MENTION IT...
HONEY, IT'S NOT HOW IT LOOKS...
A BALLOON ANIMAL SUPREME? YOU LOUSE! YOU THINK I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THOSE METORITES HIDDEN IN OUR CISTERN SUPREME?
UH, MAYBE IT'D BE ZWAAKE BEST IF YOU GUYS EXCUSED YOURSELVES. SQUBAK WILL OPEN A ZWAAKE BOTTLE OF WONT YOU, SUGAR-SNOUT?
SURE ZYEEKE THING, BADMINTON-BUNS!
UH, WELL, THANKS FOR EVERYTHING, EVERYBODY! SO LONG, DIANA. YOU TOO, DIANA. GIVE MY LOVE TO UH, DIANA...
I WILL... JUST AS SOON AS I'VE TETHERED THIS WORM IN OUR SPARE ROOM SUPREME FOR THE NIGHT!
AW, BABY...

WHEW! WE'RE BACK!
LISTEN, IF YOU DON'T HAVE TO LEAVE JUST YET, THERE'S THE IMAGINARY MENAGERIE TO SEE, THEN THE CLOUD NURSERIES, AND...
SUPREME?
DO YOU, YOU KNOW, LIKE ME?
UH... YES, YES, I DO.
UH-HUH. AND WHEN YOU LIKE A GIRL, DO YOU ALWAYS TAKE HER TO A STRING OF DIFFERENT WORLDS, TIMES AND DIMENSIONS TO GET HER ATTENTION?
UH... WELL, ACTUALLY, YES.
WHAT DO PEOPLE NORMALLY DO?
OH GOD... I'VE WANTED TO DO THAT FOR SO LONG.
OHHHH... OH, WHY DIDN'T YOU?

I..I DON'T KNOW. I JUST THOUGHT THAT... BECAUSE OF WHO I AM, YOU KNOW?
THAT THERE MIGHT BE PROBLEMS... CERTAIN COMPLICATIONS...
UH.. WHAT, ARE YOU, LIKE, ANATOMICALLY ABNORMAL IN SOME WAY?
NO! NO, DEFINITELY NOT!
I MEANT THAT THERE COULD BE DIFFICULTIES WITH THE WIDER REPERCUSSIONS...
OF KISSING? BUT IT DOESN'T AFFECT ANYBODY EXCEPT US! I MEAN..
...HOW BIG A PROBLEM COULD IT CAUSE?
Next:
"...AND EVERY DOG ITS DAY!"

...SO LIKE WE KISSED. IT WAS INCREDIBLE.
HE WANTED ME LIKE I WANTED HIM. I COULD JUST TELL.
UH-HUH. SO WHAT HAPPENED THEN?
NOTHING! HE WRAPPED ME IN HIS CAPE AND FLEW ME HOME. ALL THE WAY THERE HE WAS QUIET AND UNEASY, LIKE HE'D DONE SOMETHING BAD.
I HAVEN'T HEARD FROM HIM SINCE.
UH, WELL, MAYBE HE'S HESITATING BECAUSE OF UNRESOLVED COMPLICATIONS...
HUH! DON'T TELL ME ABOUT COMPLICATIONS!
CARL? WHAT'S THE MATTER? WHAT HAVE YOU GOT THERE?
MY DOG OPRAH, THAT'S WHAT I'VE GOT HERE. AS FOR WHAT'S THE MATTER, I'M DAMNED IF I KNOW.
YESTERDAY MORNING SHE WAS FINE. NOW SHE'S ACTING ALL WEIRD. I'M TAKING HER TO THE VET.
CARL, LOOK AT HER YOU IDIOT! SHE'S PREGNANT!
GOD, THE WAY SHE'S BREATHING SHE'S ABOUT TO GO INTO LABOR! HOW LONG HAS SHE BEEN LIKE THIS?
LIKE WHAT? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? SHE WASN'T PREGNANT YESTERDAY, SO HOW CAN...?
UH, SHE DOES LOOK SORT OF SWOLLEN, NOW YOU MENTION...

SWOLLEN, LOOK THE HOAD IS SHOWING! SH-SHOULDN'T WE DO SOMETHING?
UH, WELL, I GREW UP ON A FARM. ANIMAL BIRTHS PRETTY MUCH TAKE CARE OF THEMSELVES.
PERHAPS IF WE HAD SOMETHING SOFT, LIKE A TOWEL OR A SWEATER...
BUT I DON'T GET IT! HOW CAN OPRAH HAVE A ONE-DAY PREGNANCY?
WHAT IN THE HELL IS ALL THAT STRANGLED WHINING? DID THEY RELEASE BILLY FRIDAY FROM THE ASYLUM OR SOMETHING?
UH, NO, ACTUALLY IT'S OPRAH. SHE'S HAVING PREMATURE BABIES.
JESUS. WILL SOMEBODY GET A TOWEL? THEY'RE...
...COMING...
WHUTUNCH

WHAT...? I-IT...
IT MADE A HOLE IN THE OFFICE! WHAT IN THE HELL WAS...?
OH GOD! OH GOD, HERB COMES ANOTHER ONE...
SHRUKOOM
KRUTUNCH
SORRY.
ANOTHER TWO.
BUT... BUT I MEAN, WHAT IS THIS? IS SHE FIRING ARTILLERY SHELLS OUT OF THERE OR WHAT?
I...I REALLY DON'T KNOW, LUCAS, BUT I SHOULD GET OUT OF THE WAY, BECAUSE I THINK THERE'S ANOTHER COMING...
EE-YIIIP!
KRUTOOM
WOW. GOOD GIRL, OPRAH. GOOD GIRL...
EVERYTHING'S GOING TO BE FINE.

SUPREME
HOW CAN THE PEARL PARAGON POSSIBLY PREVENT THIS PLAGUE OF PARANORMAL POOCHES? FIND OUT, IN THE FOUR-LEGGED FABLE WE CALL...
AND EVERY DOG HAS ITS DAY!
CRIPPING CANIS MAJOR! EITHER MY SENSES SUPREME ARE DECEIVING ME, OR OMEGAPOLIS HAS FINALLY GONE TO THE DOGS!

SUPREMO! ARE WE GLAD TO SEE YOU!
I'VE SEEN DOGS CHASE CARS BEFORE, BUT THIS ONE WAS TAKING US HOME TO BURY IN THE BACK YARD!
DON'T WORRY, FOLKS! ONCE I'VE RETURNED YOU GOOD PEOPLE TO EARTH, I AM TO FIND OUT WHERE THEY CAME FROM!
SUPREMO! THANK GOODNESS YOU'RE HERE! THE OMEGAPOLIS MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY IS UNDER ATTACK BY... BY...
IT'S UNBELIEVABLE! THIS ISN'T JUST OPRAH'S PUPPIES... THERE ARE DOZENS OF THEM, OF EVERY CONCEIVABLE BREED!
SHOO! GO ON, GET OUT OF HERE!
...BY FLYING PUPPIES. YES. I'VE HEARD.
OBVIOUSLY, THEY'RE AFTER THE MUSEUM'S DINOSAUR BONES...
I-I TRIED SHOOTING AT THEM, BUT THE BULLETS JUST BOUNCED OFF!
TH-THEN ONE OF THEM MELTED MY GUN WITH ITS EYE-BEAMS...
THEY HAVE EYE-BEAMS? HMMM. YOU KNOW, THIS IS ALL STARTING TO SOUND DISTURBINGLY FAMILIAR.
IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME FOR A MOMENT, I NEED TO VISIT MY CITADEL. THERE'S SOMEONE THERE I THINK I SHOULD TALK TO...
...AND I'M TAKING ALONG A ROLLED-UP NEWSPAPER JUST IN CASE!

UH-OH.
RADAR? THERE YOU ARE! I'VE BEEN LOOKING ALL OVER FOR YOU!
LISTEN, I'VE GOT A LEAD ON THE SLAVER ANT. YOU WANT TO COME ALONG AND HELP ME STOP ON HER? IT'LL BE LIKE OLD TIMES!
I'M AFRAID NOT, MISTRESS. I'VE BEEN A BAD DOG.
I'M GOING FOR A WALK, BEFORE THE MASTER GETS BACK. A LONG WALK.
HUH? BUT I DON'T UNDERSTAND. WHERE TO?
DOTOLGUOSO, PROBABLY.
DON'T BOTHER REFILLING MY DOG BOWL.

AND...
WHERE IS HE? WHERE THE HELL IS THAT DAMNED DOG?
E-ETHAN, YOU'RE SWEARING!
WH-WHATEVER HAS POOR RADAR DONE TO PUT YOU IN SUCH A MEAN MOOD?
WELL, I'M JUST MAKING A WILD GUESS HERE, BUT I THINK THAT AFTER SEVENTY YEARS, "POOR" RADAR HAS DISCOVERED SOX.
UGH! ISN'T THAT TYPICAL OF A MALE? HE'S LIKE AN ANIMAL!
HE LEFT HERE WITH HIS TAIL BETWEEN HIS LEGS HEADING FOR SPACE. HOW WILL YOU FIND HIM?
IF HE'S STILL IN THIS DIMENSION, I SHOULD BE ABLE TO LOCATE HIM WITH MY SPYGLASS SUPREME.
YOU WAIT TILL I CATCH UP WITH THAT MEGA-MUTT! HE'S ONLY POPULATED OMEGAPOLIS WITH FLYING PUPPIES!
FLYING PUPPIES? OH, HOW ADORABLE!

SALLY, THINK ABOUT IT: THERE ARE HUNDREDS OF THEM, THEY CAN FLY, AND THEY'RE NOT HOUSE-TRAINED. HOW ADORABLE IS THAT?
AHA! WAIT A MINUTE! I THINK I SEE HIM! HE'S SNIFFING AROUND A COMET OUT NEAR BETELGEUSE!
SALLY, YOU HOLD ON HERE FOR A MOMENT. AS FOR ME...
...RIGHT...
...BE...
I'LL...
...BACK.

OKAY, RADAR, WHAT IN THE NAME OF THE NEBULAE WERE YOU THINKING?
I'VE KNOWN YOU ALL MY LIFE, AND NOW SUDDENLY I FIND YOU'VE TURNED INTO SOME SORT OF LABRADOR LOTHARIO!
WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO YOU?
I... I DECIDED I WOULD LIKE TO MATE, MASTER. I HAVE NEVER DONE THIS BEFORE.
I FOUND A BEAUTIFUL, SWEET NATURED BORZOI IN UPTOWN OMEGAPOLIS.
OF COURSE, AT SPEED SUPREME, OUR RELATIONSHIP ONLY LASTED FOR A FORTIETH OF A SECOND, BUT IT FELT MEANINGFUL AT THE TIME.
"IT WAS VERY PLEASANT, SO I THOUGHT I MIGHT LIKE TO DO IT JUST ONCE MORE.
"THIS TIME IT WAS A PROUD, TEMPESTOUS BRUNETTE PIT BULL NEAR THE WATERFRONT. AFTER THAT, I'M AFRAID I RATHER LET MYSELF GO..."
EE-YIP!
AWURF?
ROWF!
RADAR! I'M ASHAMED OF YOU! TO THINK THAT MY OWN DOG IS A... A SWINGER!
AND EXACTLY HOW MANY LADY DOGS DID YOU "LET YOURSELF GO" WITH?
UH... ABOUT THREE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY EIGHT.
I DON'T BELIEVE THIS. WHAT MADE YOU ACT THAT WAY?

WELL, WITH RESPECT, MASTER, IT WAS OVERHEARING YOU AND MISS DANE MATING THAT GAVE ME THE IDEA.
I STARTED TO THINK ABOUT WHAT I MIGHT HAVE BEEN MISSING...
UH... LOOK, DIANA AND I WEREN'T ACTUALLY...
ETHAN! NOT YOU AS WELL!
SALLY, LOOK, I CAN EXPLAIN! I JUST GAVE DIANA A KISS BEFORE I FLEW HER BACK TO HER APARTMENT AND...
I CAN IMAGINE THE REST, THANK YOU! YOU MEN ARE ALL ALIKE!
I'M OFF AFTER THAT SLAVER ANT. I'LL LEAVE YOU TWO SEDUCERS SUPREME TO BRAG ABOUT YOUR CONQUESTS!
SLAD DA
YOU KNOW, BOY, I JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND WOMEN AT ALL. I THINK THAT'S WHAT GET'S ME INTO SO MUCH TROUBLE WITH THEM.
TELL ME ABOUT IT, MASTER.
NOW WE ARE BOTH IN THE DOG-HOUSE.

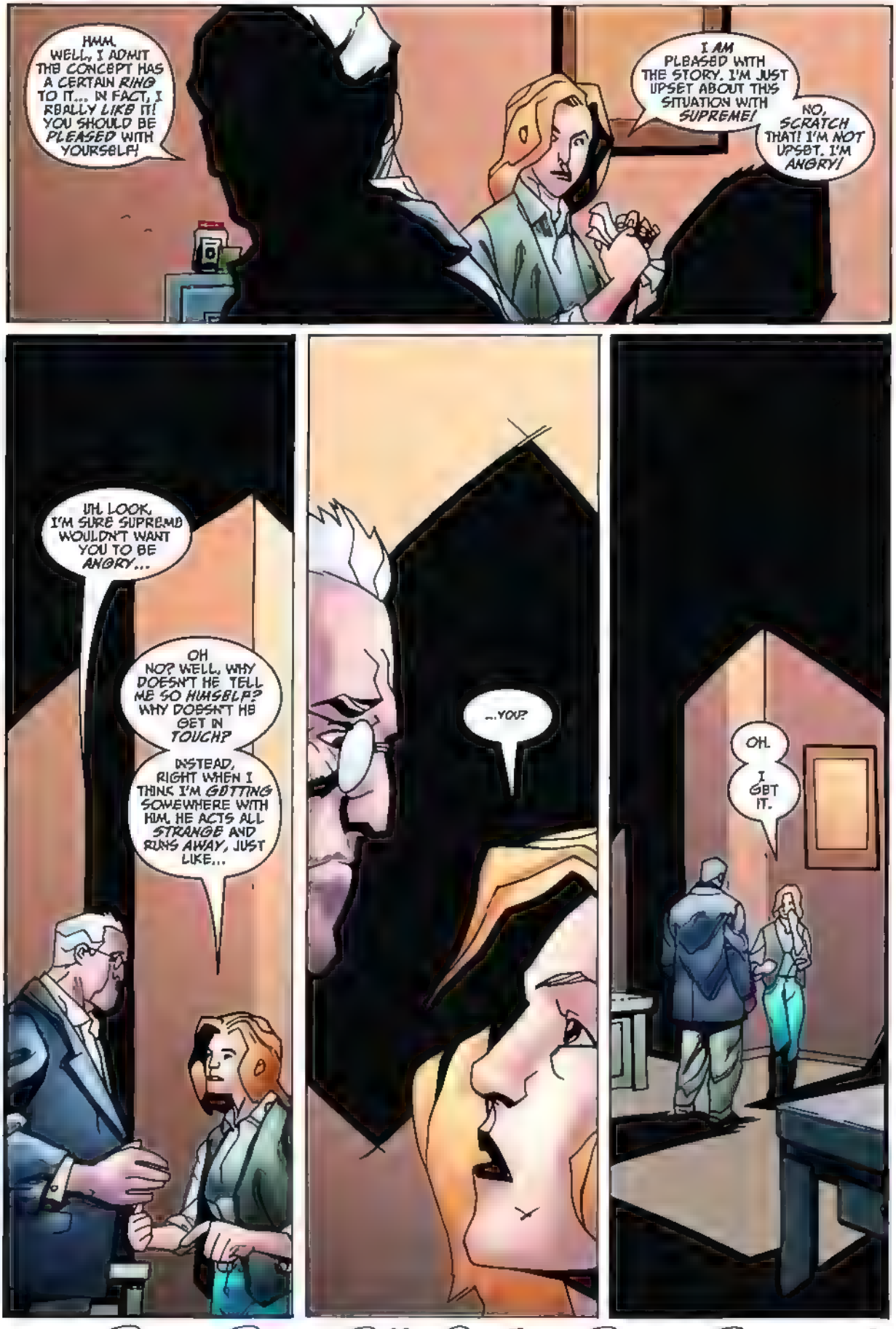
YEAH, WELL, YOU'RE IN IT DEEPER THAN ME! I DIDN'T HAVE SEX WITH HALF THE DOGS IN OMEGAPOLIS, OR... UH...
LOOK, ANYWAY, THIS POINT IS WE'VE GOT A CITY FULL OF HOVERING HOUNDS TO DEAL WITH!
YOU ARE RIGHT, MASTER. I MUST FACE UP TO MY RESPONSIBILITIES...
...EVEN IF IN ALL LIKELIHOOD THERE ARE OVER A THOUSAND OF THEM BY NOW!
OH, AND THAT'S ANOTHER THING: TWENTY-FOUR HOUR PREGNANCIES! YOU MIGHT HAVE KNOWN THERE'D BE BREEDING ODDITIES WITH BEINGS LIKE US!
I JUST HOPE YOUR OFFSPRING HAVEN'T BURIED MY CITY SOMEWHERE IS ALL!
I MEAN, WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO WITH THEM? THERE ISN'T ROOM ON EARTH FOR A THOUSAND SUPERDOGS!
I JUST HOPE YOUR THREE-HUNDRED-AND-SEVENTY-EIGHT-DOG SEX SPREE WAS WORTH IT!
IT WAS THE MOST BLISSFUL TWELVE AND A HALF SECONDS I'VE EVER KNOWN, MASTER, ALTHOUGH I REGRET IT NOW.
I SHOULD THINK SO! THE LAST I HEARD, THEY WERE USING THE TRANSATLANTIC CABLE AS A DOGGIE-CHEW!
I CAN HARDLY BELIEVE THAT MY WHELPS WOULD BEHAVE SO BADLY.
HOW WILL I BE SURE WHICH PUPS ARE REALLY MINE?

WELL, FRANKLY, I DON'T THINK WE'RE EXACTLY GOING TO NEED A BLOOD TEST...
SACRED SAINT BERNARD! I HADN'T REALIZED THEY'D GROWN UP SO FAST! THEY LOOK LIKE YEAR-OLDS!
SOON THEY'LL BE OLD ENOUGH TO BREED THEMSELVES! THERE COULD BE MILLIONS BY THE WEEKEND!
IT IS MY DUTY TO BRING THEM TO HEEL. THEY HAVE BROUGHT THE <UNTRANSLATEABLE> SCENT OF SHAME UPON ME!
WOULD YOU ADJUST MY COLLAR SPEAKERS TO THEIR LOUDEST VOLUME, AND ALSO TO THEIR ULTRASONIC FREQUENCIES FOR ME, MASTER!
OF COURSE... BUT IF THEY'RE ULTRASONIC, PEOPLE WON'T BE ABLE TO HEAR YOU!

PERHAPS NOT PEOPLE, MASTER, BUT I SHAN'T BE SPEAKING "PEOPLE" ANYWAY. I SHALL BE SPEAKING DOG.
THANK YOU. THAT SETTING WILL BE FINE.
NOW, IF I MAY SPEAK A FEW WORDS...
EE-YIP!
ARRAF!
YIP! YIP! YIP!
ROWF!
YAP!
ARRAF!
AYAP!
CROUCHING CASSIOPEIA! THEY'RE ALL HEADING FOR US! WHAT DID YOU SAY TO THEM!
UH, WELL, I PROMISED THEM ALL FREE CAPES AND RADIO COLLARS IF THEY'D FOLLOW ME.

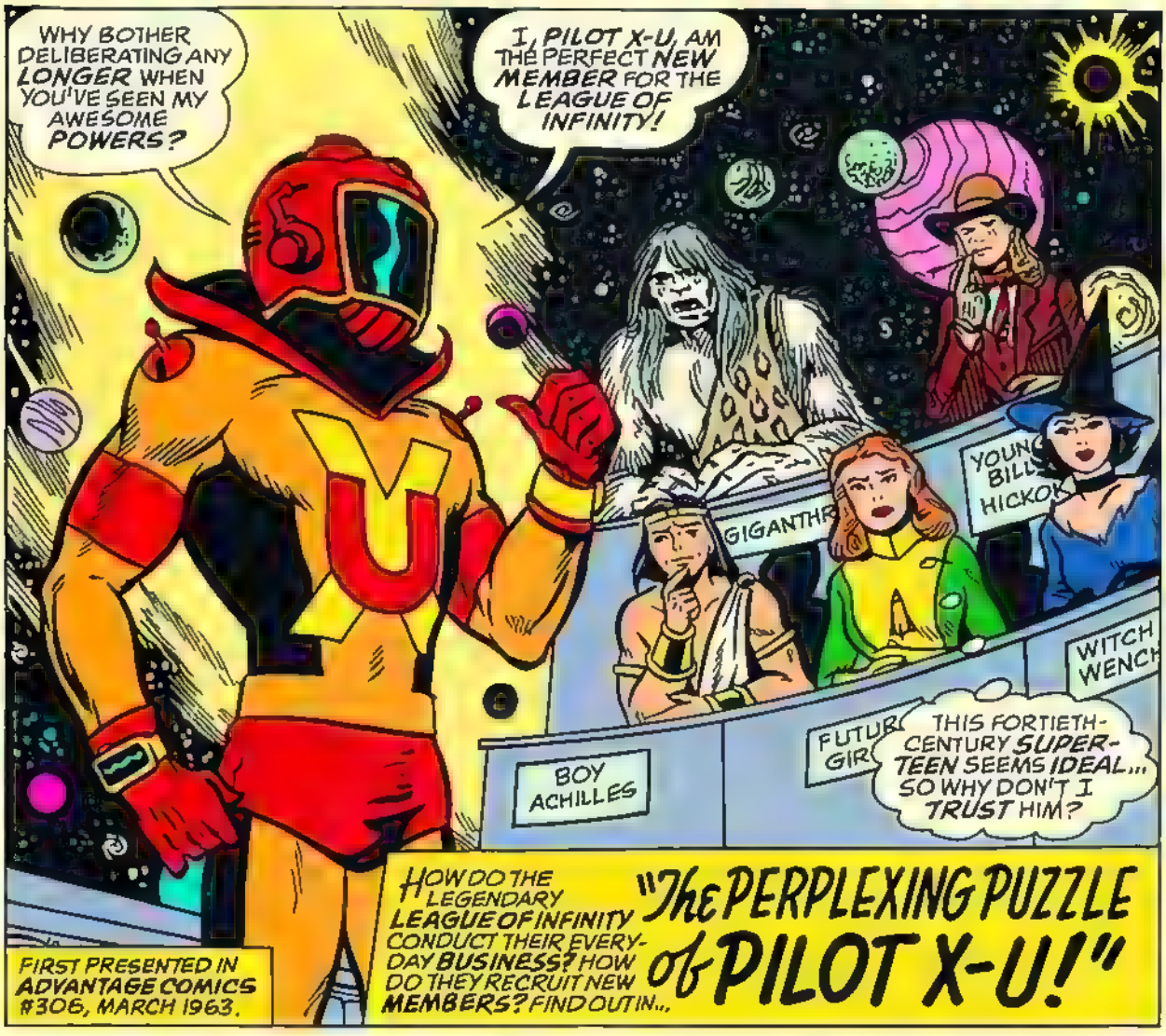
AAGH! GET DOWN, YOU LITTLE RASCALS!
RADAR, WHERE ARE YOU GOING TO GET THIS MANY CAPES AND COLLARS FROM? AND WHERE WILL YOU TAKE THE PUPPIES?
I THOUGHT SOMEWHERE IN SPACE PERHAPS NEAR THE WORLD THAT S-1 AND MISTRESS JUDY COLONIZED.
I'LL NEED SOMEONE WITH THUMBS TO MAKE ALL THE CAPES.
UH, SURE. THAT SOUNDS GOOD.
WELL, SO LONG THEN, BOY. GOOD LUCK WITH FOUNDING YOUR HOUND HEAVEN.
I GUESS I'LL SEE YOU WHEN YOU GET BACK...
Y-YOU MEAN YOU PLAN TO START A WHOLE PLANET OF SUPER-DOGS?
WHY NOT? I'M SURE THAT WITH ENCOURAGEMENT THEY'LL MAKE AS GOOD A JOB OF IT AS BIPEDS HAVE.
I THINK I SHALL CALL IT FIDOR, TO SIGNIFY FAITHFULNESS.
...AND THEN MAYBE WE CAN HAVE A CHAT ABOUT VISITING A VETINARIAN FROM VEGA TO SEE ABOUT SOME SURGERY SUPREME!
8

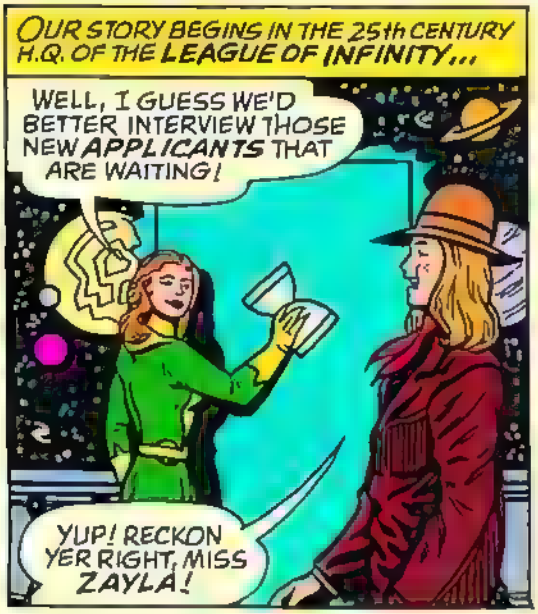
"...AND SO ANYWAY, IT SEEMS RADAR CONTACTED TALOS, FORMERLY S-1, HEROKING OF SUPREMATONIA. TALOS MASS-PRODUCED PROSTHETIC HANDS FOR THE DOGS.
"AFTER THAT, THEY WERE ABLE TO BUILD THEIR PLANET FIDOR BY THEMSELVES!
"AT LEAST, THAT'S HOW I HEARD IT FROM SUPREME..."
AT LEAST YOU HEARD FROM HIM. THAT'S MORE THAN I HAVE!
I MEAN, I DON'T GET IT! HE TOOK ME ON ALL THESE GREAT ADVENTURES, GAVE ME ALL THESE TERRIFIC IDEAS FOR OMNIMAN STORIES... AND THEN NOTHING!
HE, UH, HE MAYBE NEEDS TIME TO THINK HIMSELF.
SO, WHAT WERE THESE TERRIFIC IDEAS?
WELL, SEE, SUPREME TOOK ME TO THIS PLACE CALLED THE SUPREMACY, SUPREMES GO WHEN THEY'RE REVISED FROM EXISTENCE.
ANYWAY, IT SUDDENLY STRUCK ME: THAT'S EXACTLY LIKE WHEN COMIC BOOK CONTINUITIES GET REVISED!
IT OPENS UP SUCH A LOT OF POSSIBILITIES FOR OMNIMAN STORYLINES!
HMM. SUCH AS?
WELL, I FIGURE WE CAN HAVE THIS PIVOTAL ISSUE WHERE OMNIMAN DISCOVERS THIS PLACE CALLED THE OMNIGARCHY, WHERE ALL THE OLD OMNIMEN GO!
HE CAN MEET DISCARDED CHARACTERS LIKE THE ORIGINAL '30s OMNIMAN... MAYBE EVEN OMNIBUNNY! IT'S AN IRRESISTABLE IDEA!
I TOLD CARL BEFORE HE TOOK OPRAH HOME. HE LOVED IT!

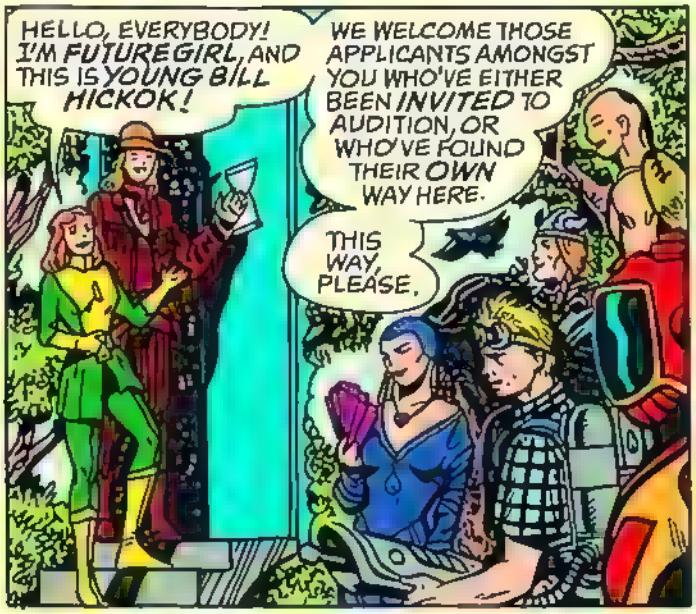

HMM. WELL, I ADMIT THE CONCEPT HAS A CERTAIN *RING* TO IT... IN FACT, I *REALLY LIKE* IT! YOU SHOULD BE *PLEASED* WITH YOURSELF!
I *AM* PLEASED WITH THE STORY. I'M JUST UPSET ABOUT THIS SITUATION WITH *SUPREME!*
NO, SCRATCH THAT! I'M NOT UPSET. I'M *ANGRY!*
UH, LOOK, I'M SURE SUPREME WOULDN'T WANT YOU TO BE *ANGRY...*
OH NO? WELL, WHY DOESN'T HE TELL ME SO *HIMSELF?* WHY DOESN'T HE GET IN *TOUCH?*
INSTEAD, RIGHT WHEN I THINK I'M *GETTING* SOMEWHERE WITH HIM, HE ACTS ALL *STRANGE* AND RUNS AWAY, JUST LIKE...
...YOU?
OH. I GET IT.

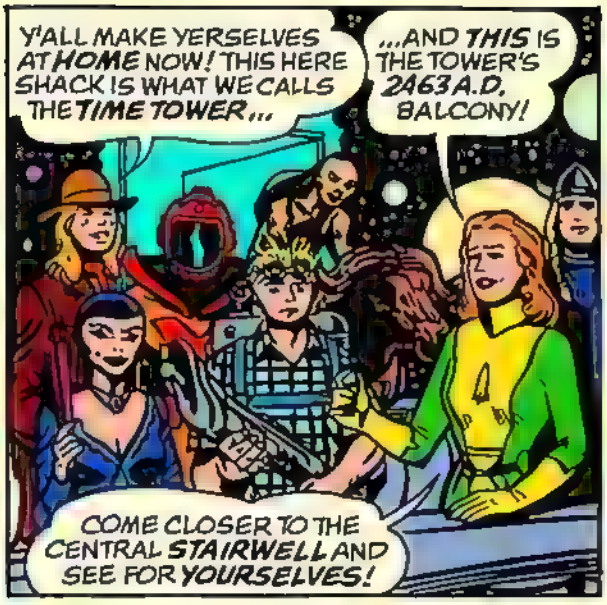
Next: Diana Dane, Billy Friday, Darius Dax, and Suddenly, THE SUPREMIUM MAN!

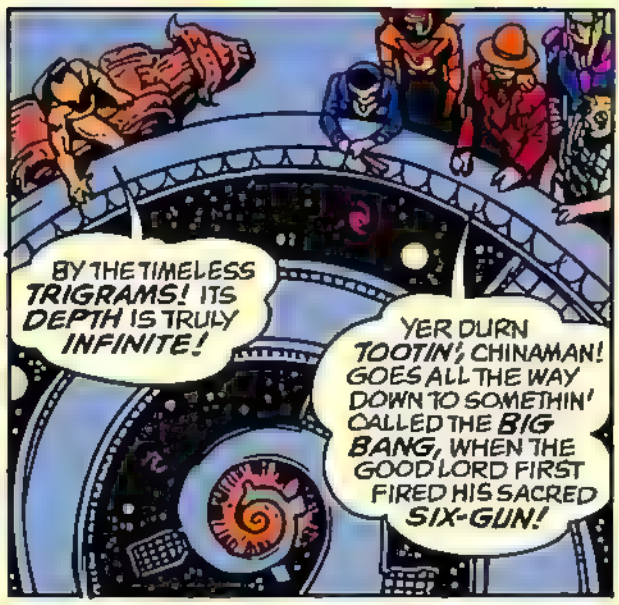
The LEAGUE of INFINITY


WHY BOTHER DELIBERATING ANY LONGER WHEN YOU'VE SEEN MY AWESOME POWERS?
I, PILOT X-U, AM THE PERFECT NEW MEMBER FOR THE LEAGUE OF INFINITY!
GIGANTHR
YOUNG BILL HICKOK
WITCH WENCH
FUTUR GIR
BOY ACHILLES
THIS FORTIETH-CENTURY SUPER-TEEN SEEMS IDEAL... SO WHY DON'T I TRUST HIM?
FIRST PRESENTED IN ADVANTAGE COMICS #306, MARCH 1963.
HOW DO THE LEGENDARY LEAGUE OF INFINITY CONDUCT THEIR EVERY-DAY BUSINESS? HOW DO THEY RECRUIT NEW MEMBERS? FIND OUT IN...
"The PERPLEXING PUZZLE of PILOT X-U!"

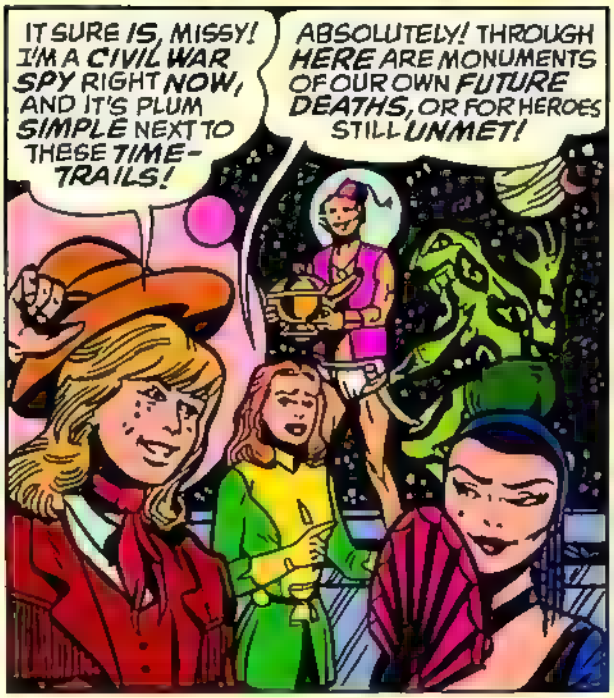

OUR STORY BEGINS IN THE 25th CENTURY H.Q. OF THE LEAGUE OF INFINITY...
WELL, I GUESS WE'D BETTER INTERVIEW THOSE NEW APPLICANTS THAT ARE WAITING!
YUP! RECKON YER RIGHT, MISS ZAYLA!

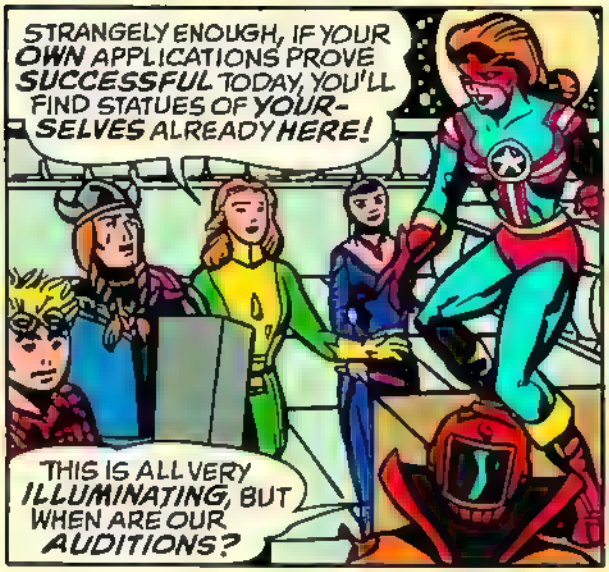

HELLO, EVERYBODY! I'M FUTUREGIRL, AND THIS IS YOUNG BILL HICKOK!
WE WELCOME THOSE APPLICANTS AMONGST YOU WHO'VE EITHER BEEN INVITED TO AUDITION, OR WHO'VE FOUND THEIR OWN WAY HERE.
THIS WAY, PLEASE.

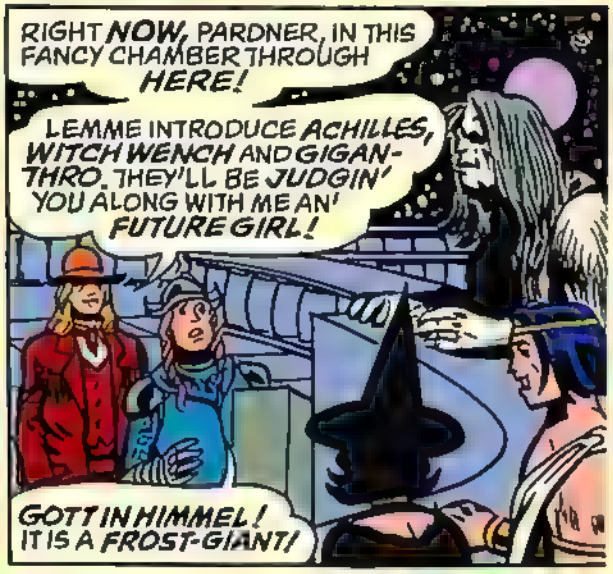

Y'ALL MAKE YERSELVES AT HOME NOW! THIS HERE SHACK IS WHAT WE CALLS THE TIME TOWER...
...AND THIS IS THE TOWER'S 2463 A.D. BALCONY!
COME CLOSER TO THE CENTRAL STAIRWELL AND SEE FOR YOURSELVES!


BY THE TIMELESS TRIGRAMS! ITS DEPTH IS TRULY INFINITE!
YER DURN TOOTIN', CHINAMAN! GOES ALL THE WAY DOWN TO SOMETHIN' CALLED THE BIG BANG, WHEN THE GOOD LORD FIRST FIRED HIS SACRED SIX-GUN!

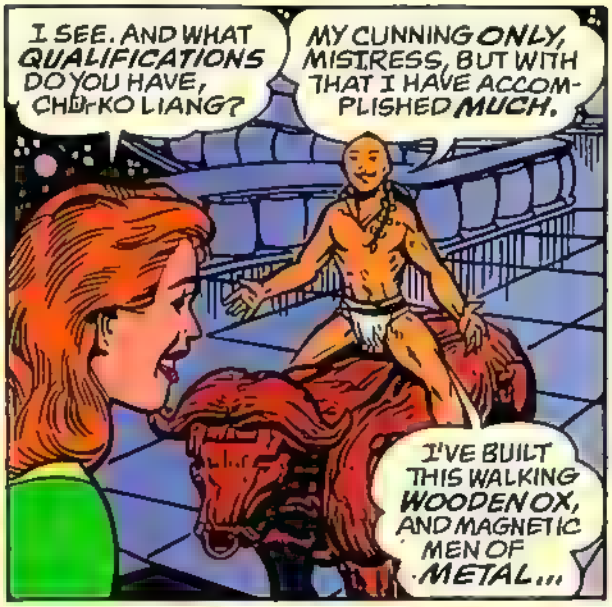
BILL'S RIGHT...AND IT GOES UP TO TIME'S END!
HOW PECULIAR. TIME-TRAVEL IS EVEN MORE COMPLEX THAN ESPIONAGE!
OVER HERE, YOU'LL SEE SOUVENIRS OF OUR MANY AD-VENTURES...SOME OF WHICH WE HAVEN'T EVEN HAD YET!


IT SURE IS, MISSY! I'M A CIVIL WAR SPY RIGHT NOW, AND IT'S PLUM SIMPLE NEXT TO THESE TIME-TRAILS!
ABSOLUTELY! THROUGH HERE ARE MONUMENTS OF OUR OWN FUTURE DEATHS, OR FOR HEROES STILL UNMET!


STRANGELY ENOUGH, IF YOUR OWN APPLICATIONS PROVE SUCCESSFUL TODAY, YOU'LL FIND STATUES OF YOUR-SELVES ALREADY HERE!
THIS IS ALL VERY ILLUMINATING, BUT WHEN ARE OUR AUDITIONS?

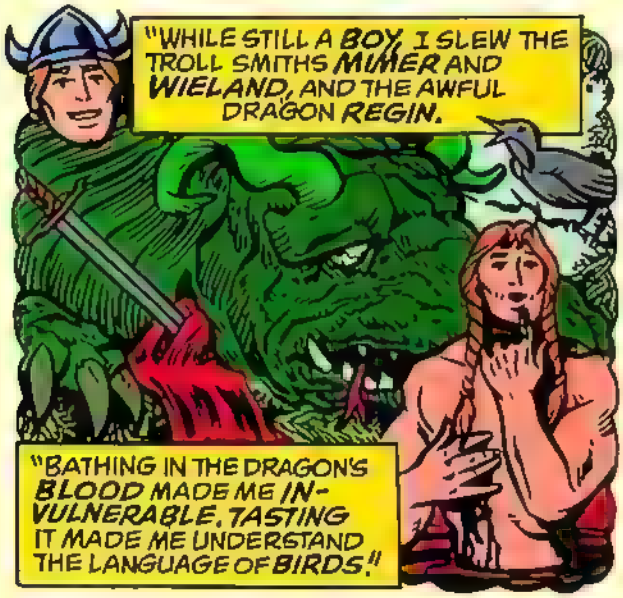

RIGHT NOW, PARDNER, IN THIS FANCY CHAMBER THROUGH HERE!
LEMME INTRODUCE ACHILLES, WITCH WENCH AND GIGAN-THRO. THEY'LL BE JUDGIN' YOU ALONG WITH ME AN' FUTURE GIRL!
GOTT IN HIMMEL! IT IS A FROST-GIANT!

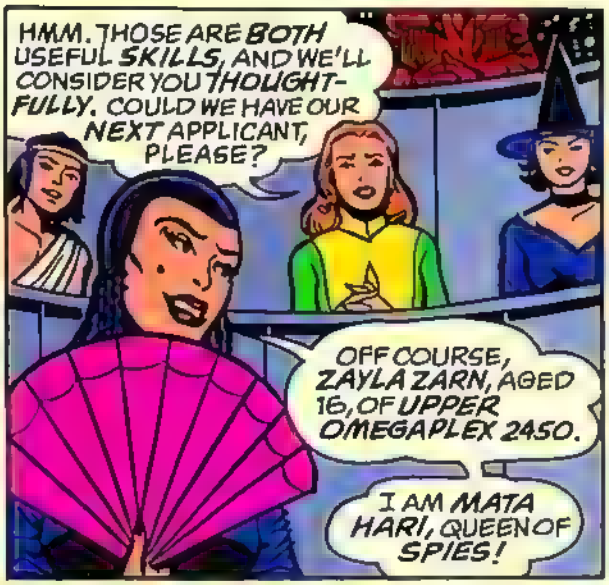
YOU MEAN GIGANTHRO? YEAH, I GUESS HE IS!
NOW, LET'S HAVE THE FIRST APPLICANT STEP ON UP!
WITH RESPECT, ILLUSTRIOUS ONE, THAT WOULD BE MYSELF. I AM CHU-KO LIANG, FROM THREE-KINGDOMS-PERIOD CHINA!


I SEE. AND WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DO YOU HAVE, CHU-KO LIANG?
MY CUNNING ONLY, MISTRESS, BUT WITH THAT I HAVE ACCOMPLISHED MUCH.
I'VE BUILT THIS WALKING WOODEN OX, AND MAGNETIC MEN OF METAL...

"ALSO, I HAVE FAMOUSLY DEVISED THE STRATEGY OF EIGHT ARRAYS...
"EIGHT STONES ARE PLACED IN SUCH AN ORDER THAT OPPOSING TROOPS GET LOST AND LOSE THEIR WITS AMONGST THEM!"

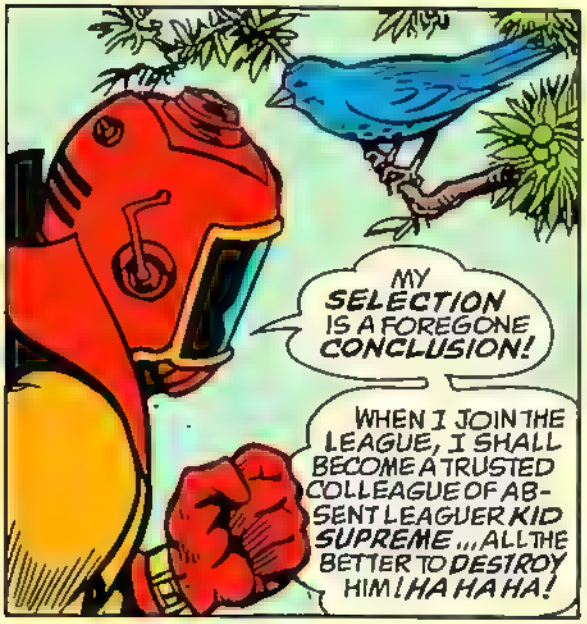
AN EXCELLENT RESUMEE, CHU-KO LIANG. WE'LL LET YOU KNOW.
OUR NEXT APPLICANT, PLEASE.
GREETINGS, FRAULEIN, FROM THE ANCIENT TEUTONIC LANDS! I AM SIEGFRIED, SON OF SIEGMUND AND SIEGLINDE!

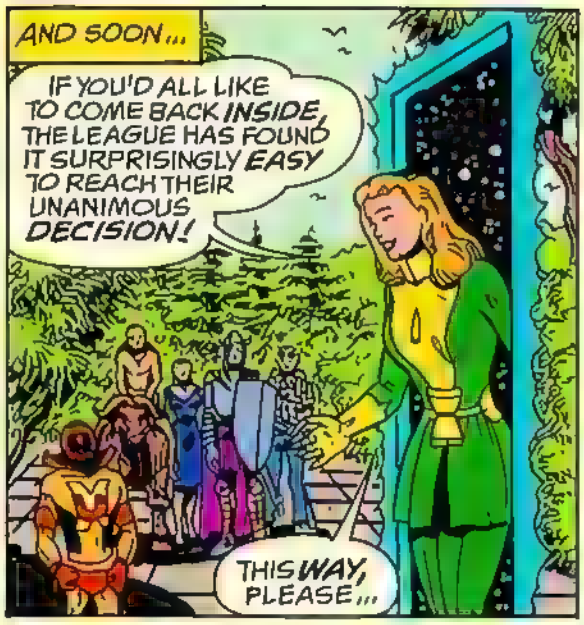

"WHILE STILL A BOY, I SLEW THE TROLL SMITHS MIMER AND WIELAND, AND THE AWFUL DRAGON REGIN.
"BATHING IN THE DRAGON'S BLOOD MADE ME INVULNERABLE. TASTING IT MADE ME UNDERSTAND THE LANGUAGE OF BIRDS."

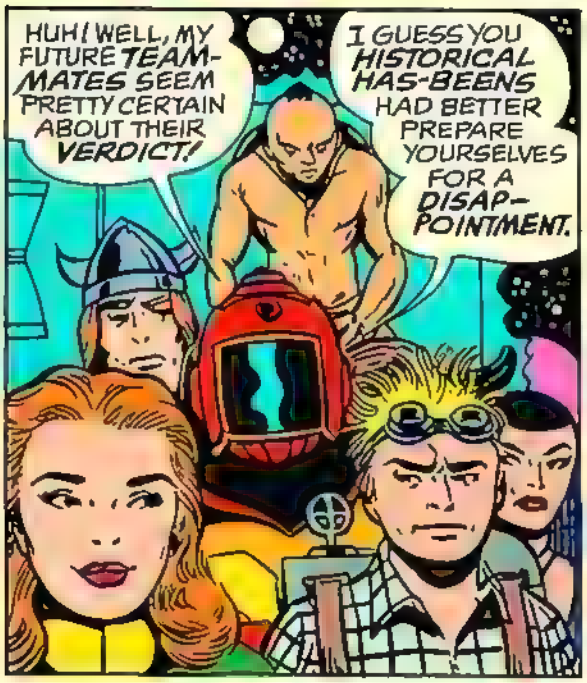

HMM. THOSE ARE BOTH USEFUL SKILLS, AND WE'LL CONSIDER YOU THOUGHTFULLY. COULD WE HAVE OUR NEXT APPLICANT, PLEASE?
OFF COURSE, ZAYLA ZARN, AGED 16, OF UPPER OMEGAPLEX 2450.
I AM MATA HARI, QUEEN OF SPIES!

"A MERE TEENAGER, I AM ALREADY FAMED THROUGHOUT FIN-DU-SIECLE EUROPE FOR MY ESPIONAGE SKILLS!
"A MISTRESS OF DISGUISE AND SUBTERFUGE, I HAVE BROUGHT EMPIRES TO THEIR KNEES!"
WELL, MA'AM, YOU SURE GOT PLENTY OF SPUNK, AN' I LIKE TO SEE THAT IN A FILLY! WE'LL THINK ABOUT YOU REAL CAREFUL!
WHO'S NEXT?
THAT WOULD BE ME: WILHELM REICH... SOMETIMES CALLED ORGONE LAD!
"DISCOVERER OF THE MYSTERIOUS BLUE ORGONE ENERGY THAT PERMEATES ALL THINGS, I HAVE LEARNED TO CONTROL IT!
"MY CLOUDBURSTER GUN CAN CAUSE RAIN, AND DISRUPT CRAFTS OR BEINGS POWERED BY EVIL NEGATIVE ORGONE ENERGY!"
MOST IMPRESSIVE, ORGONE LAD! NOW, IF WE COULD HAVE OUR FINAL APPLICANT...
HA! AT LAST IT'S MY TURN!
IF YOU'D AUDITIONED ME FIRST, YOU COULD HAVE SAVED EVERY-ONE ELSE THE TROUBLE!
I'M SPACE PILOT XAVIER ULYSSES FROM 3950 A.D.!
AFTER I AIDED A DYING ALIEN, HE BESTOWED GOD-LIKE POWERS UPON ME, ALLOWING ME TO BECOME THE COSMIC CHAMPION KNOWN AS PILOT X-U!
ALLOW ME TO DEMONSTRATE: WITH RAYS OF CONCENTRATED LIGHT, I CAN CUT THROUGH SOLID TITANIUM!
RATHER BETTER THAN WOODEN OXEN OR TALKING BIRDS, I THINK YOU'LL AGREE!
TARNATION!

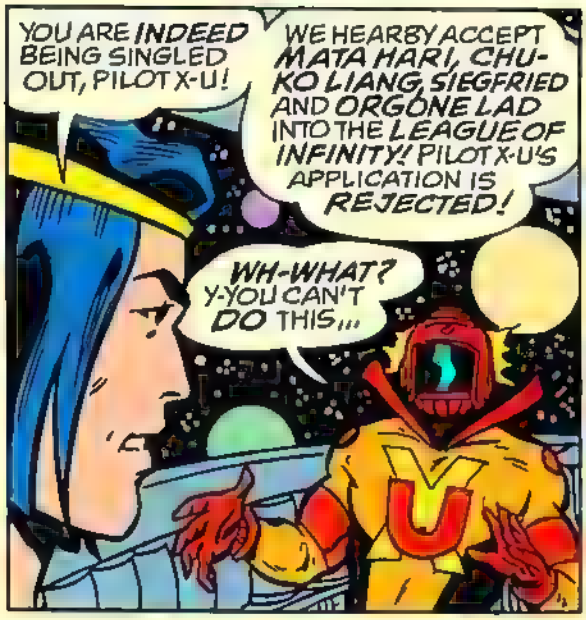
AS FOR MATA HARI'S SUPPOSED DISGUISE AND SUBTERFUGE SKILLS, HOW CAN THEY COMPARE WITH MY OWN?
PROJECTING 3-D LIGHT IMAGES, I CAN MAKE MYSELF LOOK LIKE ANYONE, AND CAN CONJURE ANY OBJECT FROM THIN AIR!
GNNARGHH!
THESE ARE JUST SOME OF MY POWERS! I'M CLEARLY THE PERFECT CHOICE!
YOUR DISPLAY WAS INCREDIBLE, PILOT X-U! NOW WE MUST MAKE OUR JUDGMENT!
IF YOU'D ALL RETURN TO OUR RECEPTION GARDENS AND WAIT THERE....
AND...
I HOPE THEY DECIDE SOON, I'M ALREADY NERVOUS ENOUGH!
JA, ME ALSO! NEVER HAVE I KNOWN SUCH STRONG COMPETITION!
PILOT X-U'S POWERS MADE MY CLOUD-BURSTER LOOK PRETTY LAME!
ALAS, I FEAR HIS FIREWORKS PUT US ALL TO SHAME!
HE KNOWS IT, TOO! SEE HOW HE CHOOSES NOT TO MINGLE WITH THE REST OF US!
HE'S PROBABLY GOING TO PRACTICE EVEN MORE AMAZING SKILLS!
BUT...
HA HA HA! THEY'RE FALLING FOR IT!
SOON THEY WILL ELECT ME TO THEIR LEAGUE, AND THEN MY GREAT VENGEANCE SHALL BE ONE STAGE CLOSER!


MY SELECTION IS A FOREGONE CONCLUSION!
WHEN I JOIN THE LEAGUE, I SHALL BECOME A TRUSTED COLLEAGUE OF ABSENT LEAGUER KID SUPREME... ALL THE BETTER TO DESTROY HIM! HA HA HA!

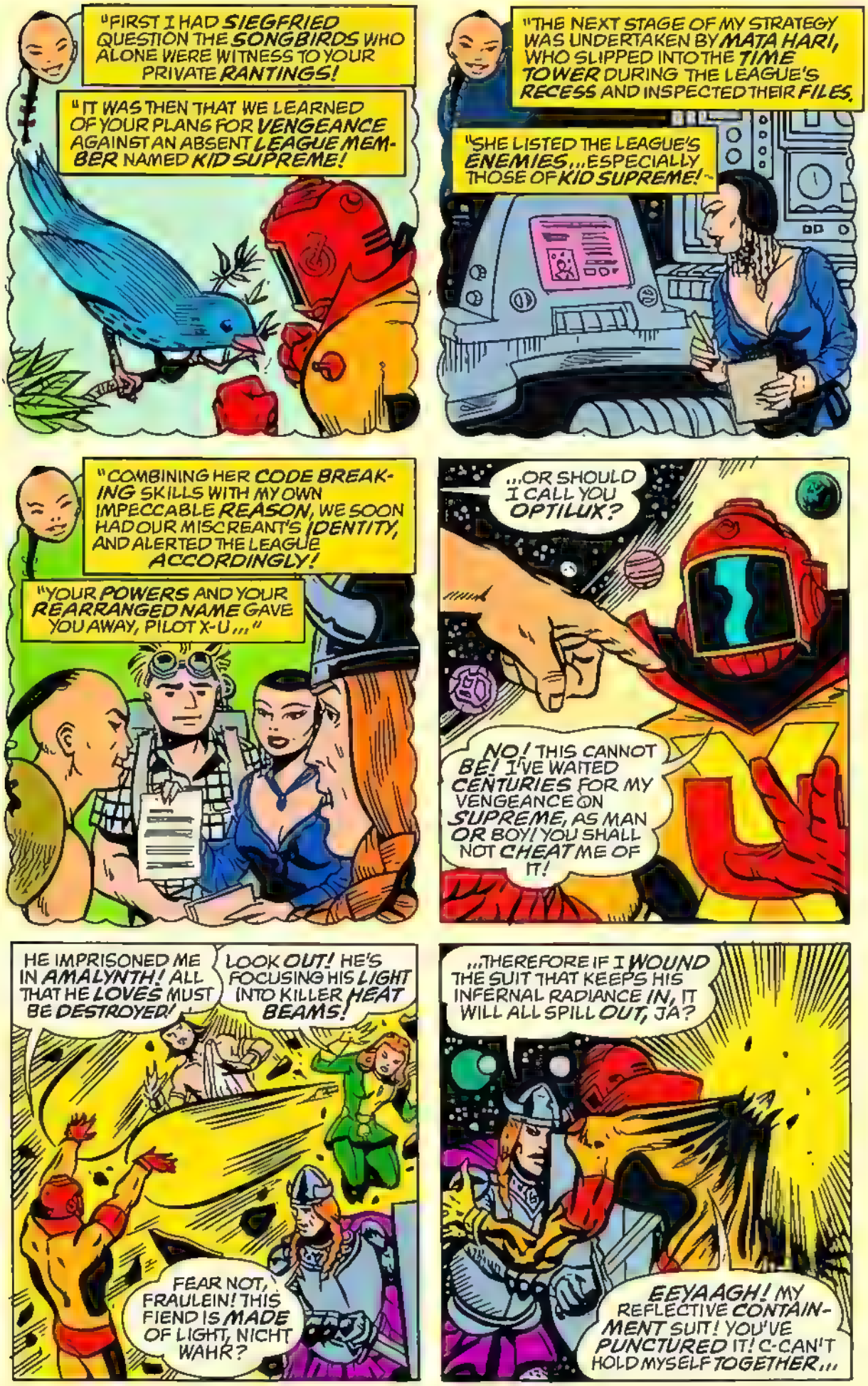

AND SOON...
IF YOU'D ALL LIKE TO COME BACK INSIDE, THE LEAGUE HAS FOUND IT SURPRISINGLY EASY TO REACH THEIR UNANIMOUS DECISION!
THIS WAY, PLEASE...

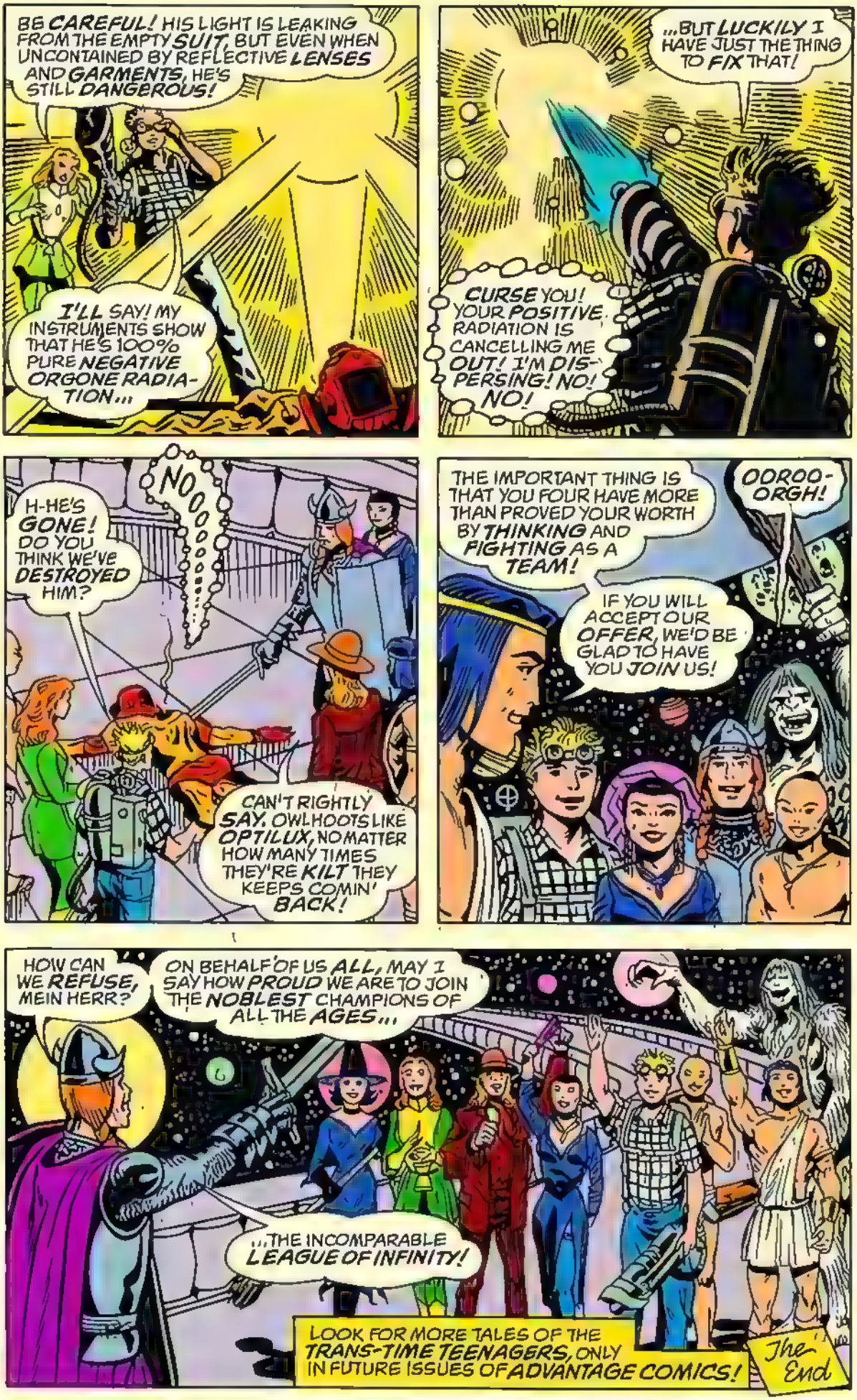

HUH! WELL, MY FUTURE TEAMMATES SEEM PRETTY CERTAIN ABOUT THEIR VERDICT!
I GUESS YOU HISTORICAL HAS-BEENS HAD BETTER PREPARE YOURSELVES FOR A DISAPPOINTMENT.

THERE. NOW WE'RE ALL GATHERED TOGETHER, WE CAN ANNOUNCE OUR FINAL SELECTION!
WOULD PILOT X-U STAND APART FROM THE REST OF THE GROUP, PLEASE?
I KNEW IT! I'M BEING SINGLED OUT! NO HARD FEELINGS, EH?


YOU ARE INDEED BEING SINGLED OUT, PILOT X-U!
WE HEARBY ACCEPT MATA HARI, CHU-KO LIANG, SIEGFRIED AND ORGONE LAD INTO THE LEAGUE OF INFINITY! PILOT X-U'S APPLICATION IS REJECTED!
WH-WHAT? Y-YOU CAN'T DO THIS...

AH, BUT WE CAN, DECEITFUL KNAVE! OUR NEW FRIEND CHU-KO LIANG WILL TELL YOU WHY!
GLADLY!
BEING SUSPICIOUS OF YOUR ARROGANT BEHAVIOR FROM THE START, I PROPOSED A CERTAIN STRATEGY TO MY FELLOW APPLICANTS...


"FIRST I HAD SIEGFRIED QUESTION THE SONGBIRDS WHO ALONE WERE WITNESS TO YOUR PRIVATE RANTINGS!
"IT WAS THEN THAT WE LEARNED OF YOUR PLANS FOR VENGEANCE AGAINST AN ABSENT LEAGUE MEMBER NAMED KID SUPREME!
"THE NEXT STAGE OF MY STRATEGY WAS UNDERTAKEN BY MATA HARI, WHO SLIPPED INTO THE TIME TOWER DURING THE LEAGUE'S RECESS AND INSPECTED THEIR FILES.
"SHE LISTED THE LEAGUE'S ENEMIES,,, ESPECIALLY THOSE OF KID SUPREME!
"COMBINING HER CODE BREAKING SKILLS WITH MY OWN IMPECCABLE REASON, WE SOON HAD OUR MISCREANT'S IDENTITY, AND ALERTED THE LEAGUE ACCORDINGLY!
"YOUR POWERS AND YOUR REARRANGED NAME GAVE YOU AWAY, PILOT X-U,,,"
,,,OR SHOULD I CALL YOU OPTILUX?
NO! THIS CANNOT BE! I'VE WAITED CENTURIES FOR MY VENGEANCE ON SUPREME, AS MAN OR BOY! YOU SHALL NOT CHEAT ME OF IT!
HE IMPRISONED ME IN AMALYNTH! ALL THAT HE LOVES MUST BE DESTROYED!
LOOK OUT! HE'S FOCUSING HIS LIGHT INTO KILLER HEAT BEAMS!
FEAR NOT, FRAULEIN! THIS FIEND IS MADE OF LIGHT, NICHT WAHR?
,,,THEREFORE IF I WOUND THE SUIT THAT KEEPS HIS INFERNAL RADIANCE IN, IT WILL ALL SPILL OUT, JA?
EEYAAGH! MY REFLECTIVE CONTAINMENT SUIT! YOU'VE PUNCTURED IT! C-CAN'T HOLD MYSELF TOGETHER,,,

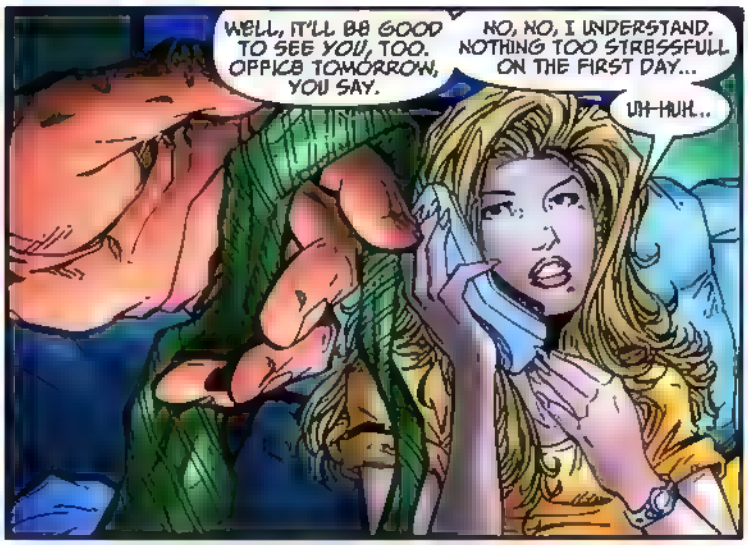

BE CAREFUL! HIS LIGHT IS LEAKING FROM THE EMPTY SUIT, BUT EVEN WHEN UNCONTAINED BY REFLECTIVE LENSES AND GARMENTS, HE'S STILL DANGEROUS!
I'LL SAY! MY INSTRUMENTS SHOW THAT HE'S 100% PURE NEGATIVE ORGONE RADIATION...
...BUT LUCKILY I HAVE JUST THE THING TO FIX THAT!
CURSE YOU! YOUR POSITIVE RADIATION IS CANCELLING ME OUT! I'M DISPERSING! NO! NO!
NOOOO
H-HE'S GONE! DO YOU THINK WE'VE DESTROYED HIM?
CAN'T RIGHTLY SAY. OWLHOOTS LIKE OPTILUX, NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES THEY'RE KILT THEY KEEPS COMIN' BACK!
THE IMPORTANT THING IS THAT YOU FOUR HAVE MORE THAN PROVED YOUR WORTH BY THINKING AND FIGHTING AS A TEAM!
OOROO-ORGH!
IF YOU WILL ACCEPT OUR OFFER, WE'D BE GLAD TO HAVE YOU JOIN US!
HOW CAN WE REFUSE, MEIN HERR?
ON BEHALF OF US ALL, MAY I SAY HOW PROUD WE ARE TO JOIN THE NOBLEST CHAMPIONS OF ALL THE AGES...
...THE INCOMPARABLE LEAGUE OF INFINITY!
LOOK FOR MORE TALES OF THE TRANS-TIME TEENAGERS, ONLY IN FUTURE ISSUES OF ADVANTAGE COMICS!
The End

VERY WELL THEN, MUGGSY, OLD BEAN. HIGH TEA ON THE ASYLUM LAWN IT IS!
NOW, DO BE PARTICULARLY CAREFUL IN CUTTING THE CRUSTS FROM THE SANDWICHES, AND WHATEVER YOU DO, DON'T FORGET THE GENTLEMAN'S RELISH...
...OR I SHALL PUT YOUR EYE OUT WITH MY CRAVATTE PIN.
NO, NO, I'M SURE YOU WON'T.
HA! HA! MARVELOUS! NEXT TUESDAY IT IS, THEN!
TOODLE-PIP!
THERE YOU ARE, OLD HORSE. THE BLOKER'S ALL YOURS.
OH, REALLY! FAKEFACE, MY DEAR CHAP, I DO TRUST THAT YOU'LL BE CLEANING ALL THOSE UP?
IT'S A DEPLORABLE HABIT, YOU KNOW, AS I'VE POSSIBLY REMARKED BEFORE.
ALTHOUGH... WHY, BLESS ME! IS THIS ONE MEANT TO BE WINSTON CHURCHILL!
ACTUALLY, YOU KNOW, THAT'S RATHER GOOD...
HELLO, DIANA! YEAH. HI. THIS IS BILLY.
BILLY FRIDAY.

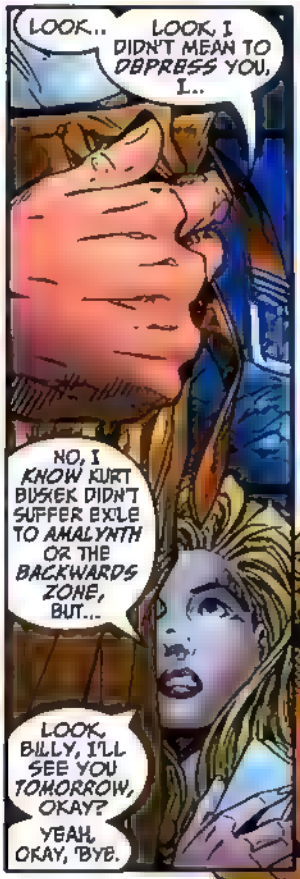
YEAH, YEAH, I'M FINE. MUCH BETTER, YEAH. THEY'RE LETTING ME OUT OF MISKATONIC ASYLUM TOMORROW.
I-I THOUGHT I MIGHT CALL IN AT THE OFFICE...
YEAH, I KNOW. ONE STEP AT A TIME. YEAH, SURE.
I SAY, COULD YOU DO ONE OF THE WARDEN FOR ME...?
IN HERE? OH, IT'S NOT SO BAD. I'VE REALLY BONDED WITH THE OTHER INMATES.
LIKE, THERE WAS THIS MOMENT THE OTHER DAY? JACK-A-DANDY... JACK... WAS TRYING TO BEAT ME TO DEATH WITH HIS CANE, RIGHT?
ANYWAY, HALFWAY THROUGH HE SUDDENLY SAID I REMINDED HIM OF A CHARACTER FROM THE NOVELS OF DEMFORD YATES, AND THAT HE FELT PITY FOR ME.
SINCE THEN, WE'VE BEEN BEST BUDDIES. I GUESS WE'RE BOTH CRAZY, GONZO TYPE OF GUYS, Y'KNOW?
SAY, IS THERE SOMEBODY THERE WITH YOU?
NO, NO, I JUST THOUGHT I HEARD SOMETHING IS ALL. MY MISTAKE.
SAY, DID I TELL YOU THAT THE WALRUS AND THE CARPENTER LIKED ME SO MUCH, THEY HAD A BIG FIGHT OVER ME...

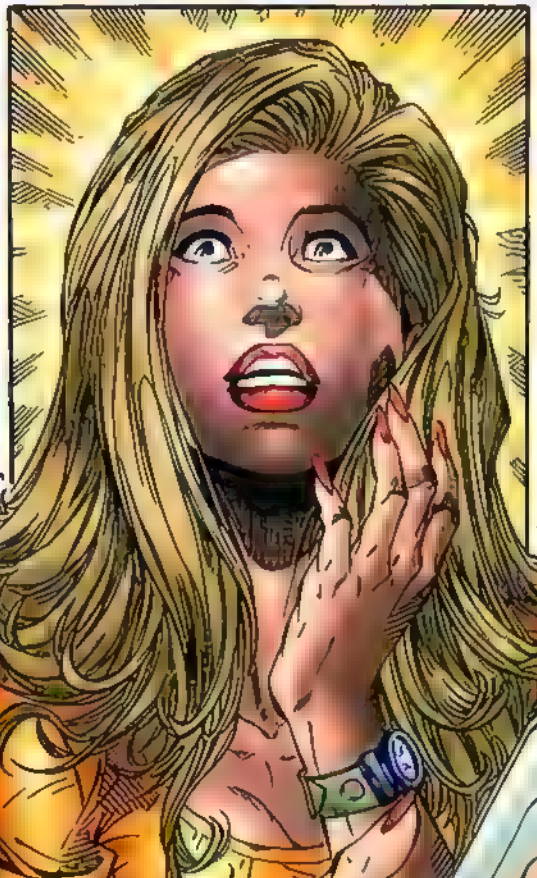
THEY DID? UH-HUH...
UH-HUH...
JEEZ, AND WHAT DID EVERYBODY ELSE IN THE SHOWER-ROOM DO?

WOW. THAT MUST HAVE REALLY BEEN SOMETHING. BUT, LIKE, YOU'RE OKAY NOW?
UH-HUH. YEAH. THAT'S GOOD...
HUH? OH, NO. THAT MUST BE THE TELEVISION YOU CAN HEAR.
UH-HUH.


WELL, IT'LL BE GOOD TO SEE YOU, TOO. OFFICE TOMORROW, YOU SAY.
NO, NO, I UNDERSTAND. NOTHING TOO STRESSFULL ON THE FIRST DAY...
UH-HUH...

SAN DIEGO? NO, I DIDN'T GO, BUT... THE WHAT?
THE EISNERS? OH, NO. NO, I DON'T THINK YOU GOT ANY.
UH, I DUNNO, KURT BUSIEK FOR ASTRO CITY, I THINK.
UH-HUH.

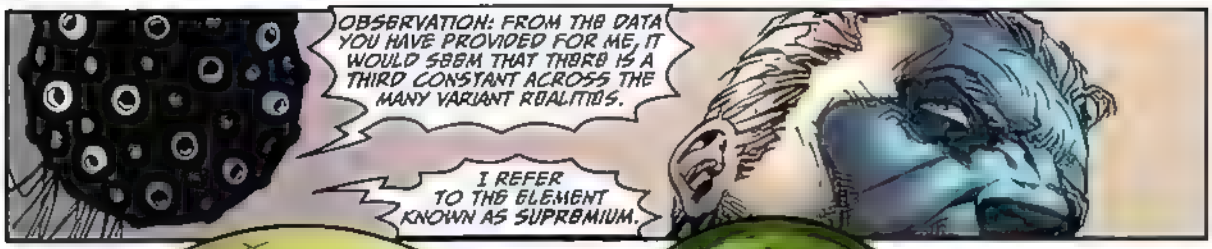

LOOK.. LOOK, I DIDN'T MEAN TO DEPRESS YOU, I...
NO, I KNOW KURT BUSIEK DIDN'T SUFFER EXILE TO AMALYNTH OR THE BACKWARDS ZONE, BUT...
LOOK, BILLY, I'LL SEE YOU TOMORROW, OKAY?
YEAH, OKAY, 'BYE.



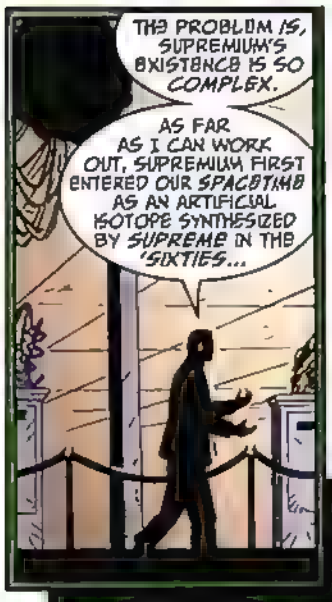
SUPREME
SUDDENLY...
The SUPREMIUM MAN!
SO.
HERE WE ARE, THEN.

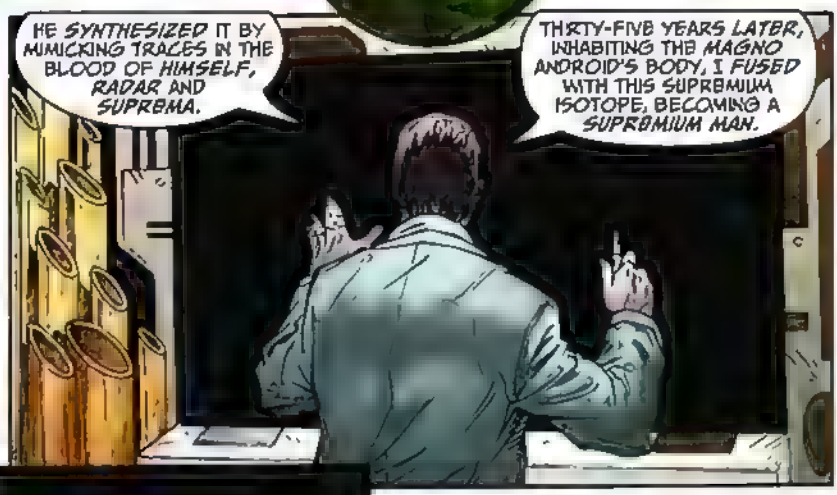
YES, HERE WE ARE. I MUST SAY, YOU'RE TAKING THIS WHOLE THING MUCH BETTER THAN I EXPECTED...
DON'T BE RIDICULOUS, I'M JUST IN SHOCK IS ALL.
YOU'RE ETHAN. ETHAN'S YOU. WHY DIDN'T I REALIZE?
I MEAN, YOU PUT ON GLASSES AND NOBODY RECOGNIZES YOU! WHAT IS THAT? IS EVERYBODY JUST LIKE, STUPID, OR WHAT?
I...I REALLY DON'T KNOW. I'VE WONDERED ABOUT THAT MYSELF, OVER THE YEARS.
I USED TO DYE MY HAIR BLACK AS KID SUPREME, BUT BY THE END OF THE WAR, I'D STOPPED BOTHERING, NOBODY NOTICED, ANYWAY.
JUDY JORDAN OCCASIONALLY SUSPECTED, CERTAINLY, BUT SHE NEVER WORKED IT OUT.
EVEN SUPER-GENIUS DARIUS DAX DON'T HAVE A CLUE!
MAYBE IT'S JUST HOW THINGS ARE WITH ME. MAYBE IT'S JUST, LIKE, PART OF MY STORY...
...BUT THEN, YOU SAW THROUGH IT. YOU RECOGNIZED ME.
WELL...
MAYBE I'M PART OF YOUR STORY, TOO

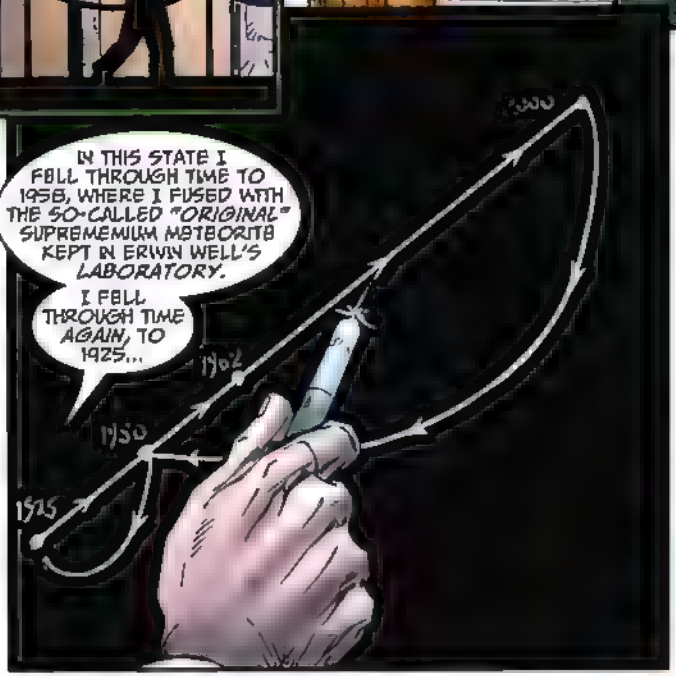
DRAMA
IT'S AS IF WE EACH HAVE LEADING ROLES IN SOME VAST, MULTI-DIMENSIONAL DRAMA
AS IF IT'S OUR UNAVOIDABLE DESTINY...
OMEGA GENES COLOSSEUM
QUESTION: YOU SPEAK OF DESTINY. SURELY THIS IS A MYSTICAL CONCEPT, CONTRADICTING YOUR RIGOROUS, ANALYTICAL PURSUIT OF SCIENCE?
HMM. A GOOD POINT, TORQUEMADA... ALTHOUGH MAYBE MY CONCEPT OF SCIENCE HAS EXPANDED SINCE ENCOUNTERING ALL THOSE ALTERNATE VERSIONS OF MYSELF ON DAXIA!
I MEAN, CONSIDER THE IMPLICATIONS...
ACROSS A WHOLE STRING OF ALTERNATE REALITIES, THE COMMON FACTOR IS ALWAYS A VERSION OF MYSELF, IN ETERNAL CONFLICT WITH A VERSION OF SUPREME!
I KNOW THIS SOUNDS DELUSIONAL, BUT IT'S ALMOST AS IF OUR CONFLICT WAS THE SOLE REASON FOR REALITY TO EXIST...
ANY REALITY!

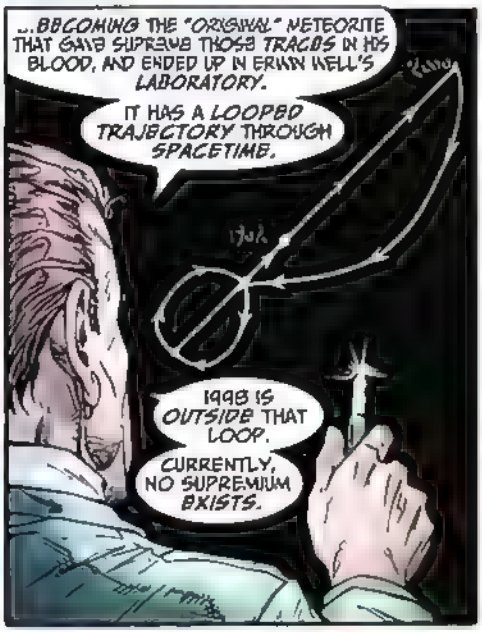

OBSERVATION: FROM THE DATA YOU HAVE PROVIDED FOR ME, IT WOULD SEEM THAT THERE IS A THIRD CONSTANT ACROSS THE MANY VARIANT REALITIES.
I REFER TO THE ELEMENT KNOWN AS SUPREMIUM.

INDEED. CONSIDERING YOU'RE A SURVEILLANCE AND DEFENSE SYSTEM, TORGLEMADA, YOU'RE REMARKABLY PERCEPTIVE.
THIS PARADOXICAL EXISTENCE OF SUPREMIUM WOULD SEEM TO BE THE HUB ABOUT WHICH BOTH SUPREME AND I REVOLVE.


THE PROBLEM IS, SUPREMIUM'S EXISTENCE IS SO COMPLEX.
AS FAR AS I CAN WORK OUT, SUPREMIUM FIRST ENTERED OUR SPACETIME AS AN ARTIFICIAL ISOTOPE SYNTHESIZED BY SUPREME IN THE 'SIXTIES...


HE SYNTHESIZED IT BY MIMICKING TRACES IN THE BLOOD OF HIMSELF, RADAR AND SUPREMA.
THIRTY-FIVE YEARS LATER, INHABITING THE MAGNO ANDROID'S BODY, I FUSED WITH THIS SUPREMIUM ISOTOPE, BECOMING A SUPREMIUM MAN.

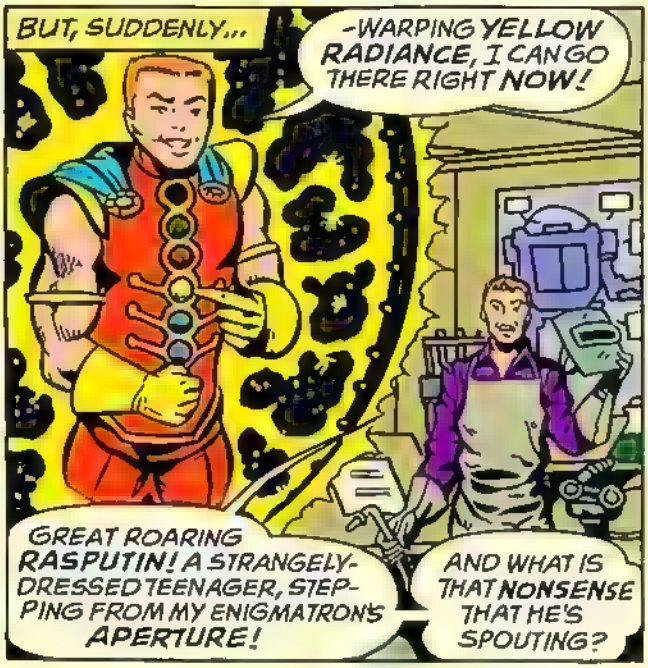

IN THIS STATE I FELL THROUGH TIME TO 1958, WHERE I FUSED WITH THE SO-CALLED "ORIGINAL" SUPREMEMIUM METEORITE KEPT IN ERWIN WELL'S LABORATORY.
I FELL THROUGH TIME AGAIN, TO 1925...
1902
1950
1925

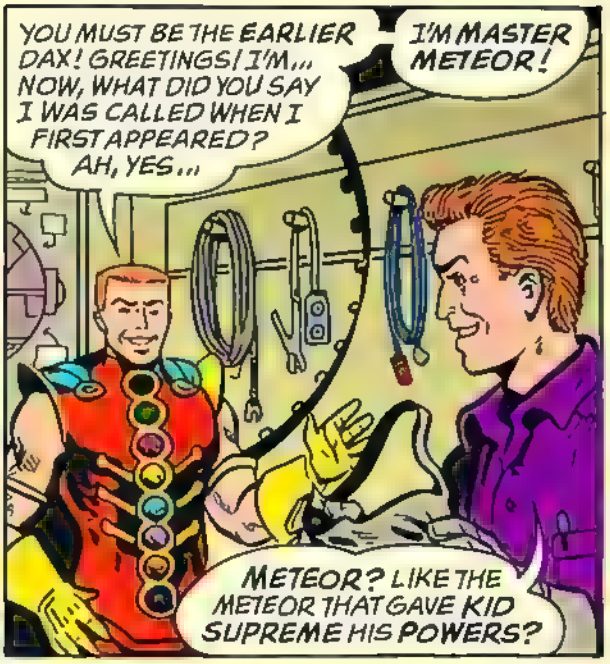

...BECOMING THE "ORIGINAL" METEORITE THAT GAVE SUPREME THOSE TRACES IN HIS BLOOD, AND ENDED UP IN ERWIN WELL'S LABORATORY.
IT HAS A LOOPED TRAJECTORY THROUGH SPACETIME.
1902
1998 IS OUTSIDE THAT LOOP.
CURRENTLY, NO SUPREMIUM EXISTS.

SCAN COMPLETED.
PRESENTING HOLO-IMAGE OF SUPREMIUM MAN MK. I.
IMAGE IS RECONSTRUCTED FROM NEWS PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN FROM SUPREME'S ENCOUNTER WITH THE SUPREMIUM MAN IN 1954.
CORRECTION: WHILE NO SUPREMIUM EXISTS WITHIN OUR SPACETIME, IT DEMONSTRABLY EXISTS WITHIN OTHER VARIANT REALITIES.
ALLOW ME TO SCAN MY HOLO-FILES FOR AN IMAGE PROVING THE EXISTENCE OF ALTERNATE-WORLD SUPREMIUM.
SCANNING, PLEASE WAIT.
OF COURSE! I REMEMBER MEETING THIS VERSION OF THE SUPREMIUM MAN BACK DURING THE 1930S!
HE WAS A TEENAGER FROM AN ALTERNATE WORLD WHO SEEMED OBSESSED WITH COLLECTING SUPREMIUM.
BACK THEN THEY CALLED HIM MASTER METEOR...

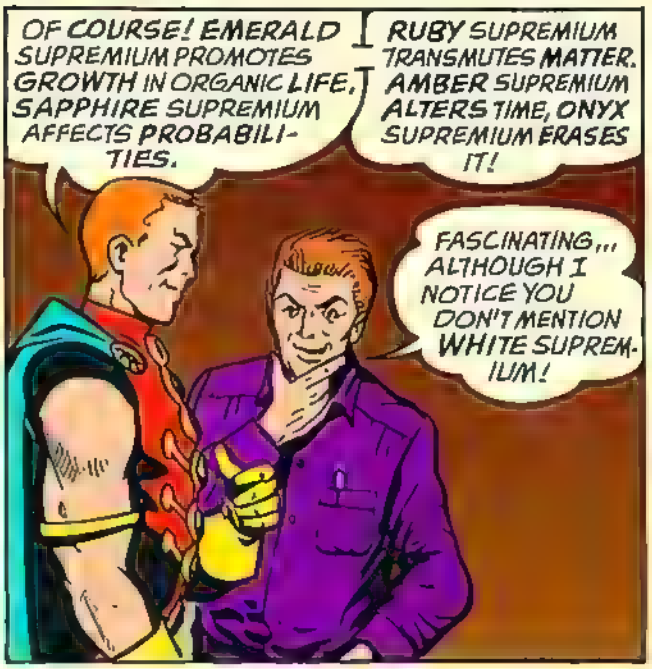
KID SUPREME
THE ADVENTURES OF SUPREME AS A BOY
M-MERCIFUL MOLECULES!
THAT EXTRA-DIMENSIONAL DELINQUENT IS KILLING ME AND RADAR WITH THE DEADLY POWER OF WHITE SUPREMIUM!
HA HA! SUFFER, KID SUPREME! WHITE SUPREMIUM IS JUST ONE SHADE OF MY SPECTRUM OF DOOM!
HOW CAN THE LITTLEHAVEN LEGEND PREVAIL AGAINST THE MYSTERY MINERAL THAT CREATED HIM? YOU'LL NEVER FORGET...
The Multi-Colored Menace of MASTER METEOR!

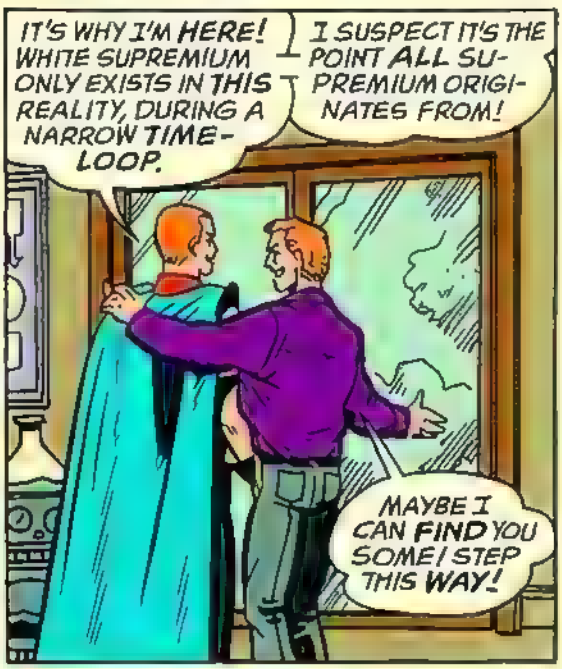
OUR TALE OPENS IN TEEN-TYRANT DARIUS DAX'S TREEHOUSE OF TERROR...
HEH HEH! AT LAST MY ENIGMATRON IS COMPLETE!
I'M NOT SURE WHAT IT DOES, BUT NO DOUBT IT WILL HELP ME DESTROY KID SUPREME!

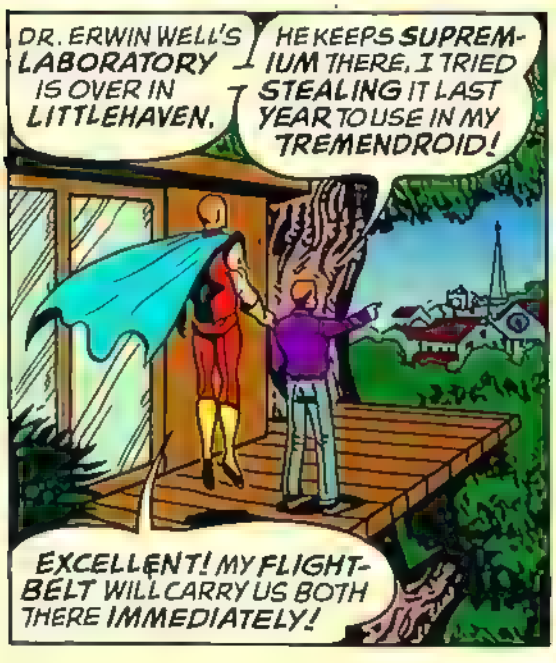

BUT, SUDDENLY...
-WARPING YELLOW RADIANCE, I CAN GO THERE RIGHT NOW!
GREAT ROARING RASPUTIN! A STRANGELY-DRESSED TEENAGER, STEPPING FROM MY ENIGMATRON'S APERTURE!
AND WHAT IS THAT NONSENSE THAT HE'S SPOUTING?

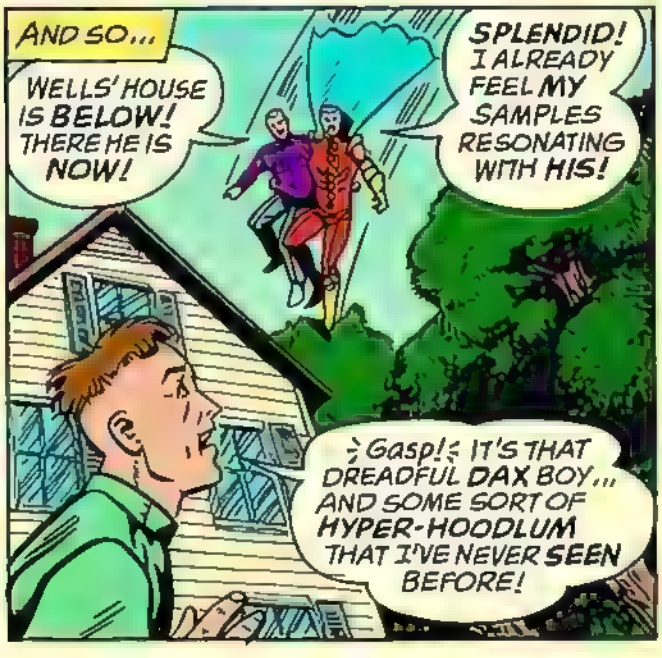

YOU MUST BE THE EARLIER DAX! GREETINGS! I'M... NOW, WHAT DID YOU SAY I WAS CALLED WHEN I FIRST APPEARED? AH, YES...
I'M MASTER METEOR!
METEOR? LIKE THE METEOR THAT GAVE KID SUPREME HIS POWERS?

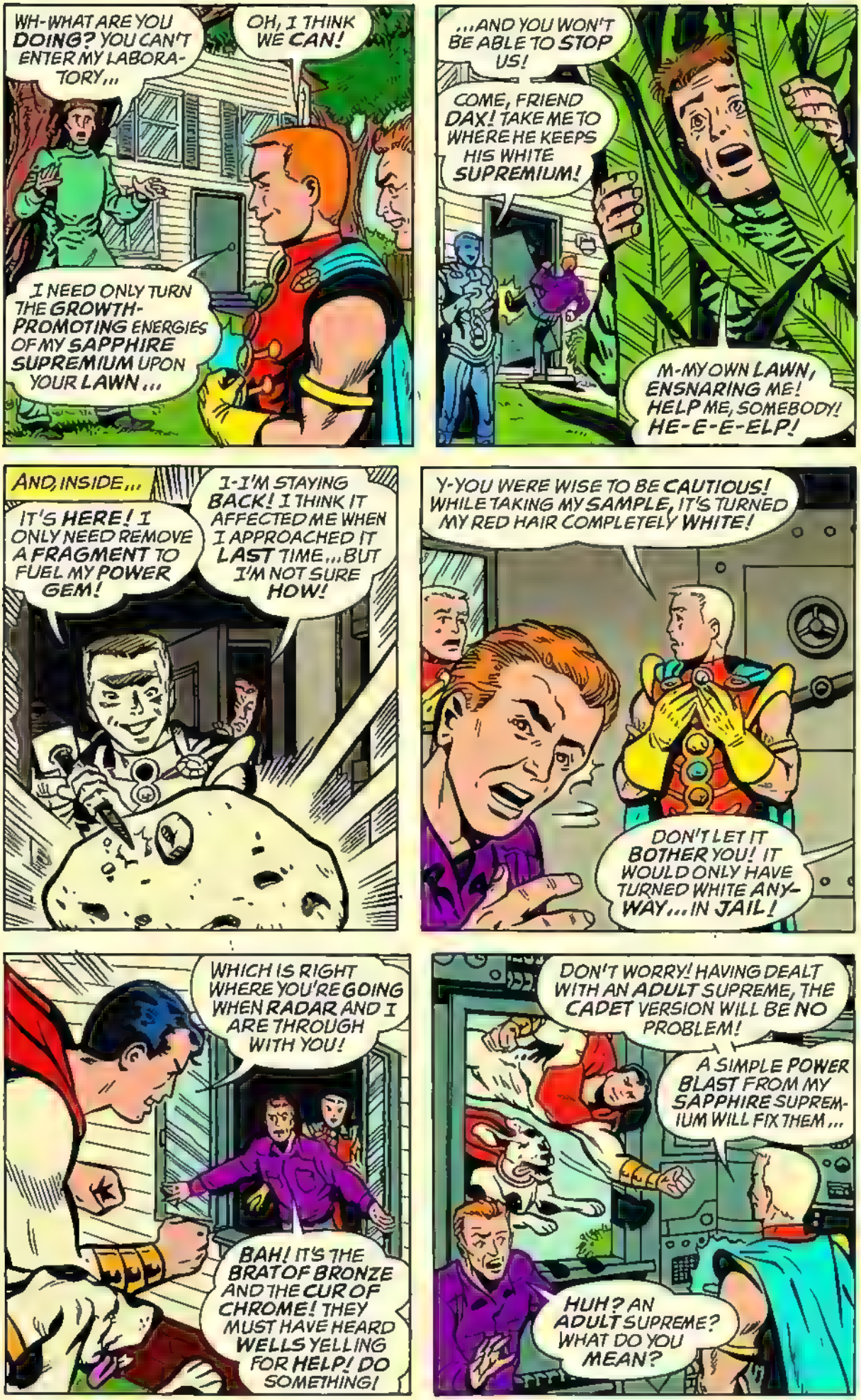
IT IS THE NATURE OF SUPREMIUM TO ALTER REALITY. THAT'S HOW WE ALL GOT INTO THIS MESS!
I'M AN EXPERT ON SUPREMIUM FROM A PARALLEL WORLD. I COLLECT VARIETIES OF SUPREMIUM...
TH-THERE ARE DIFFERENT VARIETIES?

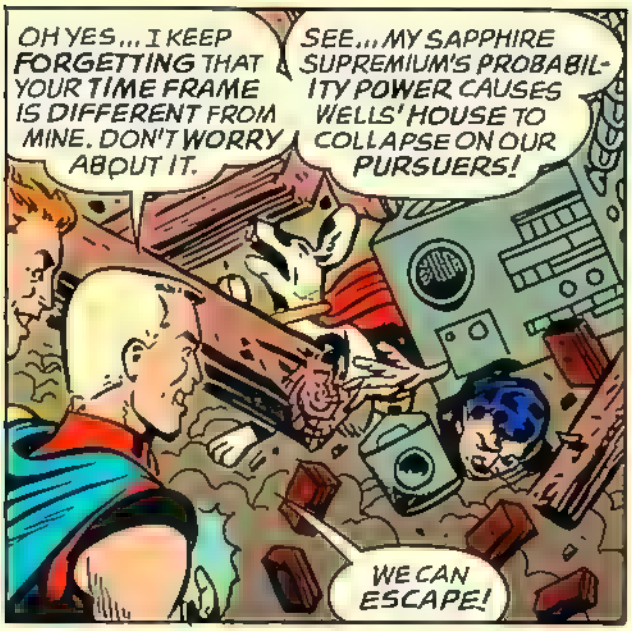

OF COURSE! EMERALD SUPREMIUM PROMOTES GROWTH IN ORGANIC LIFE. SAPPHIRE SUPREMIUM AFFECTS PROBABILITIES.
RUBY SUPREMIUM TRANSMUTES MATTER. AMBER SUPREMIUM ALTERS TIME, ONYX SUPREMIUM ERASES IT!
FASCINATING... ALTHOUGH I NOTICE YOU DON'T MENTION WHITE SUPREMIUM!


IT'S WHY I'M HERE! WHITE SUPREMIUM ONLY EXISTS IN THIS REALITY, DURING A NARROW TIME-LOOP.
I SUSPECT IT'S THE POINT ALL SUPREMIUM ORIGINATES FROM!
MAYBE I CAN FIND YOU SOME! STEP THIS WAY!

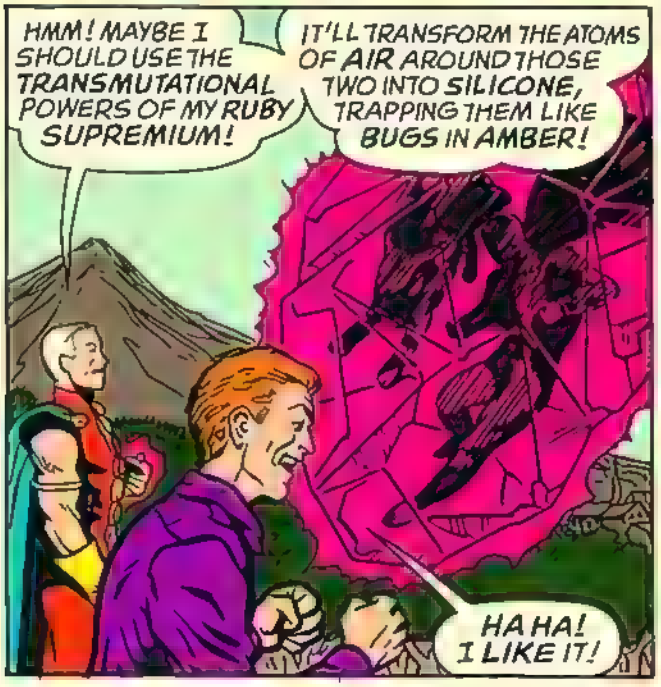

DR. ERWIN WELL'S LABORATORY IS OVER IN LITTLEHAVEN.
HE KEEPS SUPREMIUM THERE. I TRIED STEALING IT LAST YEAR TO USE IN MY TREMENDROID!
EXCELLENT! MY FLIGHT-BELT WILL CARRY US BOTH THERE IMMEDIATELY!

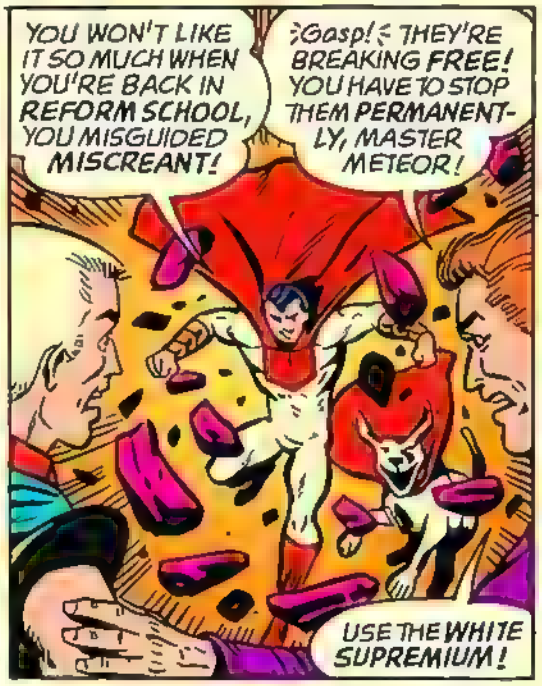

AND SO...
WELLS' HOUSE IS BELOW! THERE HE IS NOW!
SPLENDID! I ALREADY FEEL MY SAMPLES RESONATING WITH HIS!
;Gasp!; IT'S THAT DREADFUL DAX BOY... AND SOME SORT OF HYPER-HOODLUM THAT I'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE!

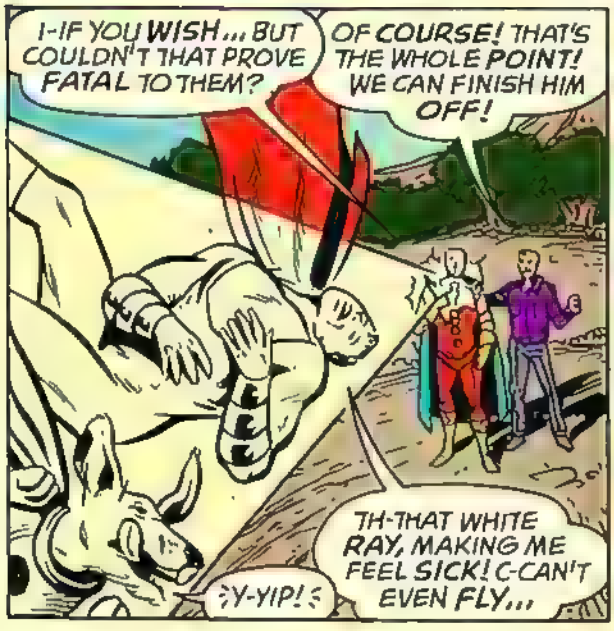

WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING? YOU CAN'T ENTER MY LABORATORY...
OH, I THINK WE CAN!
I NEED ONLY TURN THE GROWTH-PROMOTING ENERGIES OF MY SAPPHIRE SUPREMIUM UPON YOUR LAWN...
...AND YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO STOP US!
COME, FRIEND DAX! TAKE ME TO WHERE HE KEEPS HIS WHITE SUPREMIUM!
M-MY OWN LAWN, ENSNARING ME! HELP ME, SOMEBODY! HE-E-E-ELP!
AND, INSIDE...
IT'S HERE! I ONLY NEED REMOVE A FRAGMENT TO FUEL MY POWER GEM!
I-I'M STAYING BACK! I THINK IT AFFECTED IT LAST TIME...BUT I'M NOT SURE HOW!
Y-YOU WERE WISE TO BE CAUTIOUS! WHILE TAKING MY SAMPLE, IT'S TURNED MY RED HAIR COMPLETELY WHITE!
DON'T LET IT BOTHER YOU! IT WOULD ONLY HAVE TURNED WHITE ANYWAY...IN JAIL!
WHICH IS RIGHT WHERE YOU'RE GOING WHEN RADAR AND I ARE THROUGH WITH YOU!
BAH! IT'S THE BRAT OF BRONZE AND THE CUR OF CHROME! THEY MUST HAVE HEARD WELLS YELLING FOR HELP! DO SOMETHING!
DON'T WORRY! HAVING DEALT WITH AN ADULT SUPREME, THE CADET VERSION WILL BE NO PROBLEM!
A SIMPLE POWER BLAST FROM MY SAPPHIRE SUPREMIUM WILL FIX THEM...
HUH? AN ADULT SUPREME? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

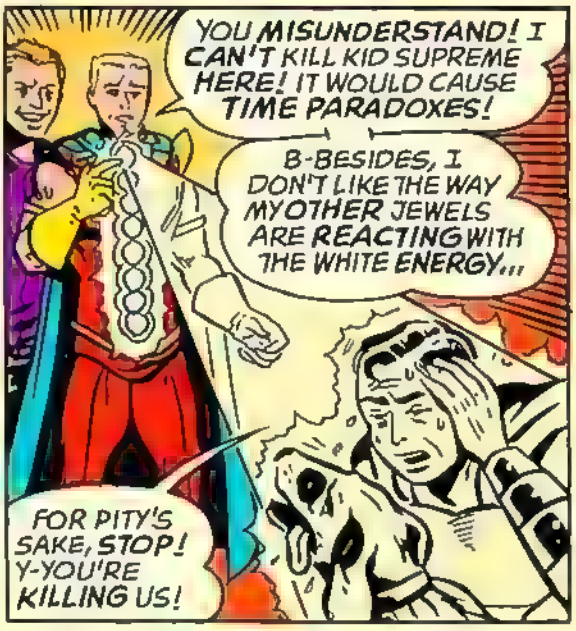

OH YES... I KEEP FORGETTING THAT YOUR TIME FRAME IS DIFFERENT FROM MINE. DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
SEE... MY SAPPHIRE SUPREMIUM'S PROBABILITY POWER CAUSES WELLS' HOUSE TO COLLAPSE ON OUR PURSUERS!
WE CAN ESCAPE!

YOU IDIOT! I DON'T WANT TO ESCAPE! I WANT TO SEE KID SUPREME DEAD!
BESIDES, DO YOU THINK MERE RUBBLE WILL HOLD HIM?
DAX AND HIS NEW PAL ARE ESCAPING, BOY! AFTER THEM!
:ROWF!:

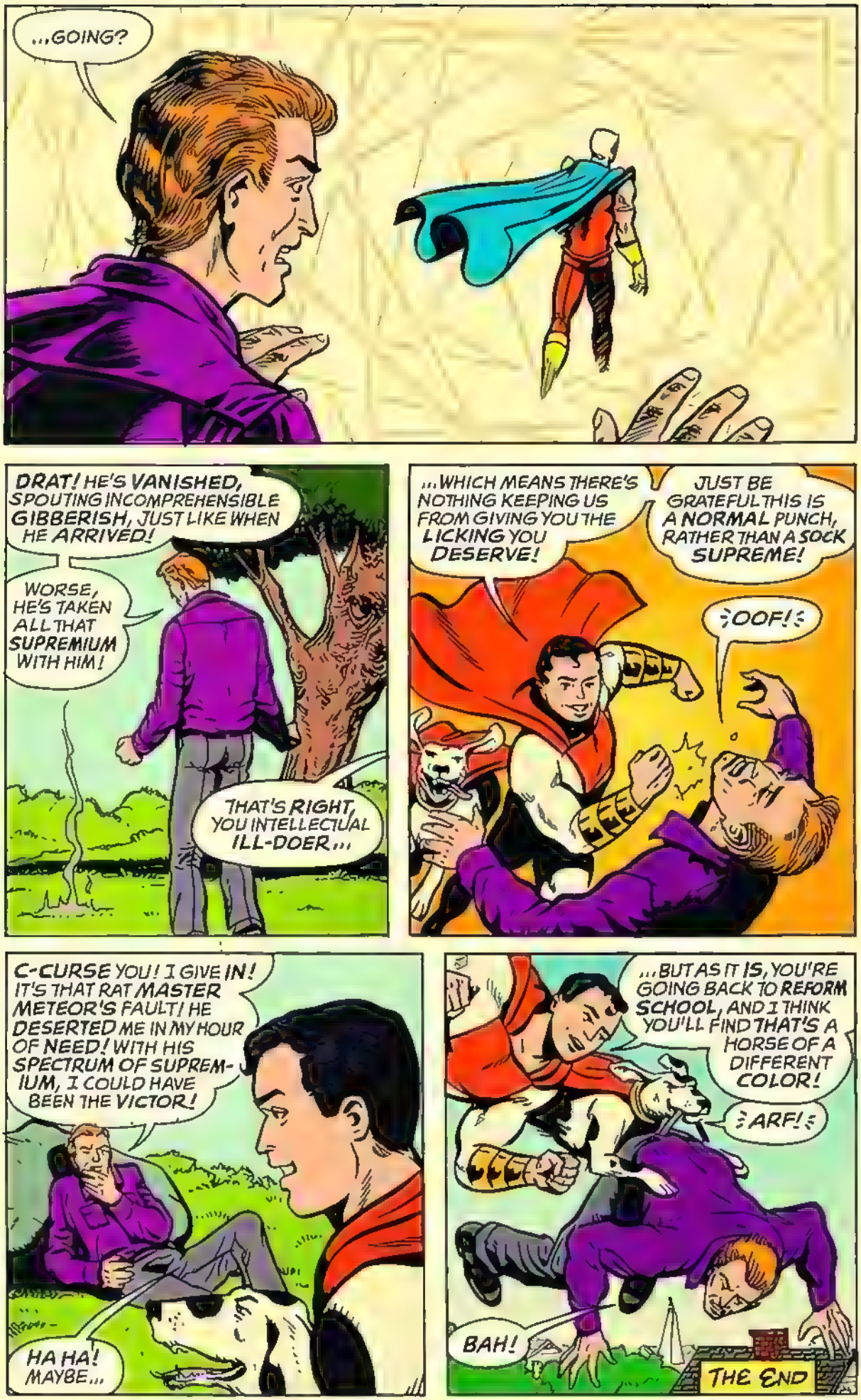

HMM! MAYBE I SHOULD USE THE TRANSMUTATIONAL POWERS OF MY RUBY SUPREMIUM!
IT'LL TRANSFORM THE ATOMS OF AIR AROUND THOSE TWO INTO SILICONE, TRAPPING THEM LIKE BUGS IN AMBER!
HA HA! I LIKE IT!


YOU WON'T LIKE IT SO MUCH WHEN YOU'RE BACK IN REFORM SCHOOL, YOU MISGUIDED MISCREANT!
:Gasp!: THEY'RE BREAKING FREE! YOU HAVE TO STOP THEM PERMANENTLY, MASTER METEOR!
USE THE WHITE SUPREMIUM!


I-IF YOU WISH... BUT COULDN'T THAT PROVE FATAL TO THEM?
OF COURSE! THAT'S THE WHOLE POINT! WE CAN FINISH HIM OFF!
TH-THAT WHITE RAY, MAKING ME FEEL SICK! C-CAN'T EVEN FLY...
:Y-YIP!:

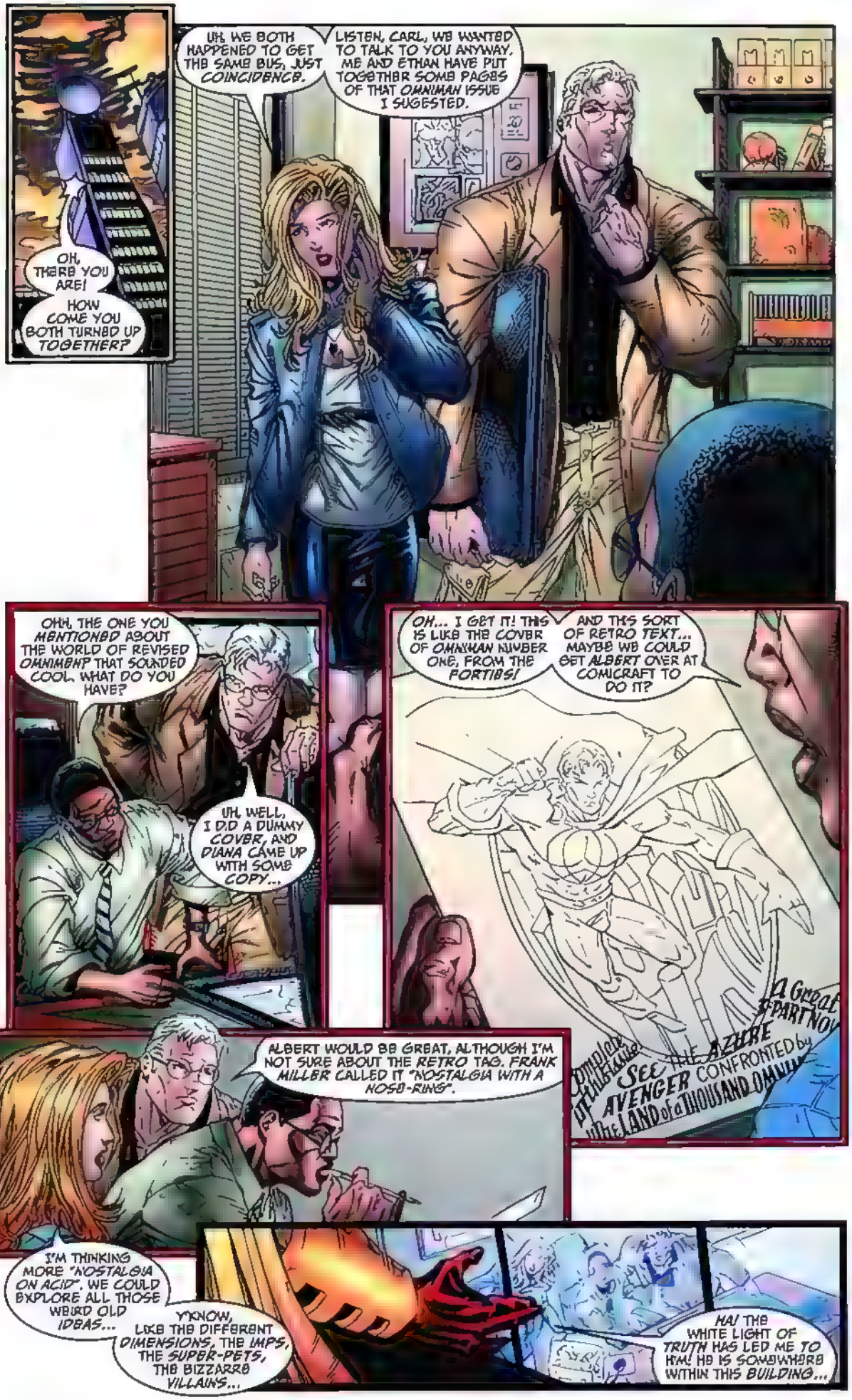

YOU MISUNDERSTAND! I CAN'T KILL KID SUPREME HERE! IT WOULD CAUSE TIME PARADOXES!
B-BESIDES, I DON'T LIKE THE WAY MY OTHER JEWELS ARE REACTING WITH THE WHITE ENERGY...
FOR PITY'S SAKE, STOP! Y-YOU'RE KILLING US!

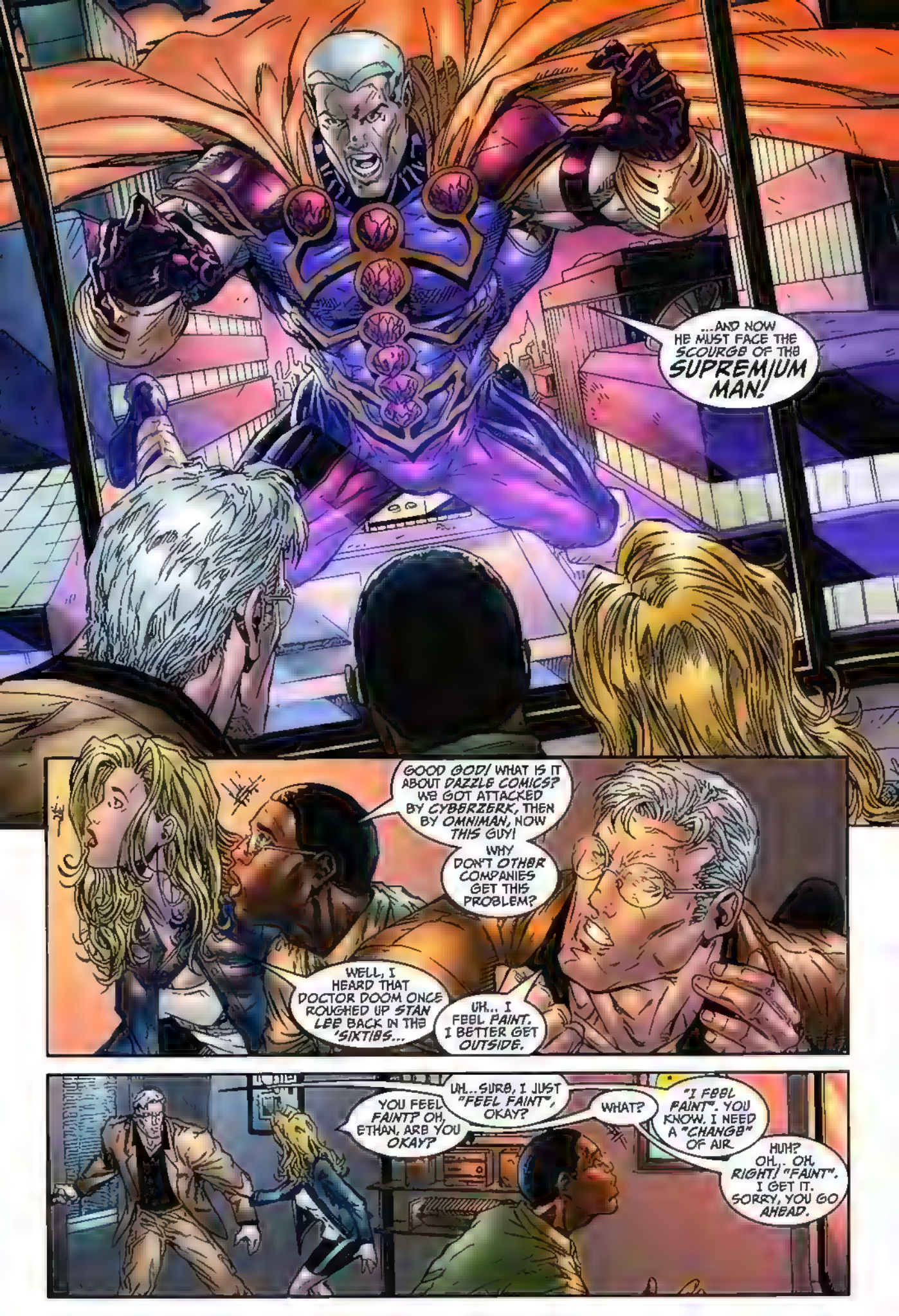
HA HA! THAT'S THE WHOLE POINT, YOU DOOMED DO-GOODER!
DAX, WAIT! MY WHITE GEM IS PULSING!
I-I THINK IT'S TRYING TO FUSE WITH THE SUPREMIUM IN THEIR BODY TISSUES.
TH-THE REACTION IS MAKING MY OWN CRYSTAL TURN VIOLET! I-I DIDN'T KNOW THERE WAS SUCH A THING AS VIOLET SUPREMIUM!
I-IT'S CAUSING ALL YOUR OTHER SAMPLES TO FLASH AT RANDOM! WHAT EFFECT WILL THAT HAVE?
I-I DON'T KNOW! IT'S NEVER HAPPENED BEFORE!
D-DAX, I THINK IT'S AFFECTING MY MIND! I-I HAD MENTAL PROBLEMS, BACK IN THE REALITY I COME FROM. I-I'M STARTING TO REMEMBER NOW!
R-RADAR... TRY TO CRAWL...
YES! YES, IT'S ALL COMING BACK! SOMEONE PUT ME IN AN ASYLUM! I-IT WAS...
IT WAS SUPREME! ONLY IN MY ALTERNATE REALITY, HE'S AN ADULT, NOT A KID!
HE HAD ME COMMITTED! I DEMAND REVENGE!
WELL, WHY IN NERO'S NAME DON'T YOU FINISH OFF KID SUPREME?
NO! IT COULD CAUSE PARADOXES! MY PARALLEL WORLD IS ONE OF THE FUTURES BRANCHING OFF FROM THIS POINT!
KILLING HIM NOW WOULD DISRUPT TIME!
I NEED TO TAKE MY REVENGE ON THE ADULT SUPREME OF THE FUTURE!
IN FACT, THANKS TO MY AMBER SUPREMIUM AND ITS TIME-
WAIT! WHAT'S HAPPENING? WHERE ARE YOU...


...GOING?
DRAT! HE'S VANISHED, SPOUTING INCOMPREHENSIBLE GIBBERISH, JUST LIKE WHEN HE ARRIVED!
WORSE, HE'S TAKEN ALL THAT SUPREMIUM WITH HIM!
THAT'S RIGHT, YOU INTELLECTUAL ILL-DOER...
...WHICH MEANS THERE'S NOTHING KEEPING US FROM GIVING YOU THE LICKING YOU DESERVE!
JUST BE GRATEFUL THIS IS A NORMAL PUNCH, RATHER THAN A SOCK SUPREME!
:OOF!:
C-CURSE YOU! I GIVE IN! IT'S THAT RAT MASTER METEOR'S FAULT! HE DESERTED ME IN MY HOUR OF NEED! WITH HIS SPECTRUM OF SUPREMIUM, I COULD HAVE BEEN THE VICTOR!
HA HA! MAYBE...
...BUT AS IT IS, YOU'RE GOING BACK TO REFORM SCHOOL, AND I THINK YOU'LL FIND THAT'S A HORSE OF A DIFFERENT COLOR!
:ARF!:
BAH!
THE END

...AND THAT WAS THE LAST TIME I SAW MASTER METEOR, ALTHOUGH AS THE SUPREMIUM MAN MK. I, HE'S RETURNED TO PLAGUE SUPREME MANY TIMES SINCE.
ALL RIGHT, TORQUEMADA, YOU CAN TURN OFF YOUR DISPLAY NOW, YOU'VE GIVEN ME PLENTY TO THINK ABOUT.
THE SUPREMIUM ITSELF, FOR EXAMPLE: IT'S POWER, DURING ITS VIOLET PHASE, TO TIE TIME AND REALITY IN KNOTS!
WHO KNOWS? SINCE I MYSELF TURNED OUT TO BE THE MK II SUPREMIUM MAN, MAYBE BY SOME PARADOX, I'M THE OTHER ONE AS WELL!
HIS HAIR WAS RED, LIKE MINE, WHEN HE FIRST APPEARED...
AFFIRMATION: WITH SUPREMIUM, ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE. DO YOU STILL WISH TO LOCATE THE SAMPLES BELONGING TO THE MK. I SUPREMIUM MAN?
OF COURSE! I'M JUST LOOKING FOR THE RIGHT PIECE OF EQUIPMENT! IT'S HERE SOMEWHERE. NOW LET ME SEE...
SEISMOBOT... NO. ULTIMATRON... NO. NOT THE NEGATIZER. NOT THE TRANSFERATRON...
AH! HERE IT IS! MY ENIGMATRON! I KNEW I HADN'T THROWN IT OUT!
MIND YOU, I'D BETTER HANDLE IT CAREFULLY. I STILL DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS, OR WHAT IT CAN...

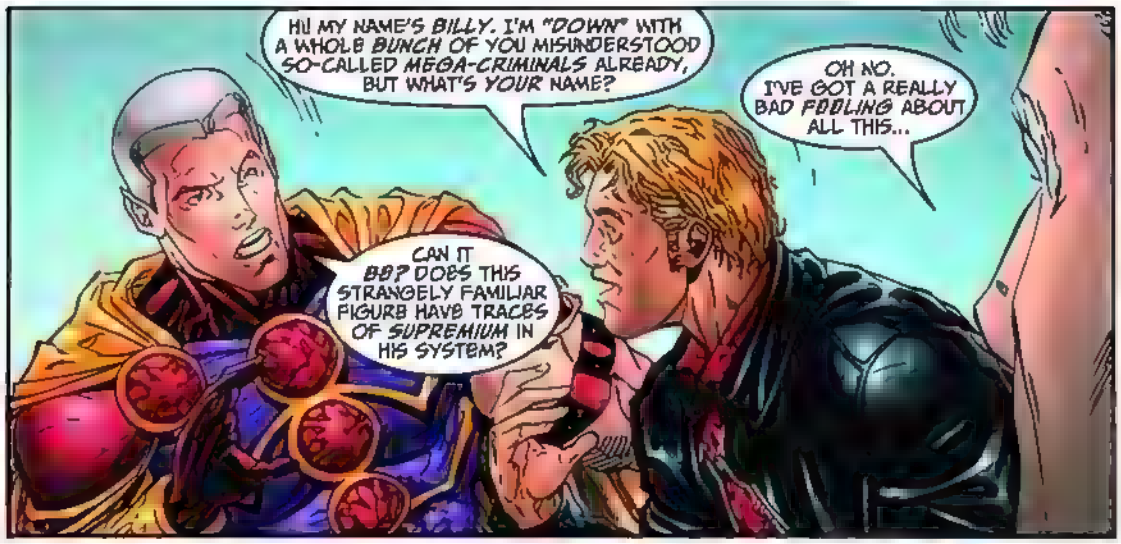
!
...DO?
...WARPING YELLOW RADIANCE, I CAN GO THERE RIGHT NOW!
THAT'S STRANGE. YOU LOOK JUST LIKE AN OLDER VERSION OF THE TEENAGER I JUST LEFT. IS YOUR NAME DAX, BY ANY CHANCE?
O-OF COURSE IT IS! AND YOU'RE THE SUPREMIUM MAN... OR MASTER METEOR AS YOU CALLED YOURSELF WHEN YOU FIRST APPEARED, SIXTY YEARS AGO!
WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
ISN'T IT OBVIOUS? I WANT REVENGE ON SUPREME FOR WHAT HE DID TO ME! HE LOCKED ME AWAY LIKE A COMMON MANIAC, AND FOR THAT HE MUST DIE!
HMMM! WELL, THAT SOUNDS GOOD TO ME, BUT HOW WILL YOU FIND HIM? YOU CAN'T EXPECT HIM TO JUST TURN UP, LIKE LAST TIME!
MY WHITE SUPREMIUM WILL LEAD ME TO HIM, RESONATING WITH THE SUPREMIUM IN HIS BODY TISSUE!
WHEN I FIND HIM, HE WILL BE DESTROYED... WHEREVER HE IS HIDING!


OH, THERE YOU ARE!
HOW COME YOU BOTH TURNED UP TOGETHER?
UH, WE BOTH HAPPENED TO GET THE SAME BUS, JUST COINCIDENCE.
LISTEN, CARL, WE WANTED TO TALK TO YOU ANYWAY. ME AND ETHAN HAVE PUT TOGETHER SOME PAGES OF THAT OMNIMAN ISSUE I SUGESTED.
OHH, THE ONE YOU MENTIONED ABOUT THE WORLD OF REVISED OMNIMEN? THAT SOUNDED COOL. WHAT DO YOU HAVE?
UH, WELL, I D.D A DUMMY COVER, AND DIANA CAME UP WITH SOME COPY...
OH... I GET IT! THIS IS LIKE THE COVER OF OMNIMAN NUMBER ONE, FROM THE FORTIES!
AND THIS SORT OF RETRO TEXT... MAYBE WE COULD GET ALBERT OVER AT COMICRAFT TO DO IT?
A GREAT 3-PART NOV
See the AZURE AVENGER CONFRONTED by the LAND of a THOUSAND OMNI
ALBERT WOULD BE GREAT, ALTHOUGH I'M NOT SURE ABOUT THE RETRO TAG. FRANK MILLER CALLED IT "NOSTALGIA WITH A NOSE-RING".
I'M THINKING MORE "NOSTALGIA ON ACID". WE COULD EXPLORE ALL THOSE WEIRD OLD IDEAS...
YKNOW, LIKE THE DIFFERENT DIMENSIONS, THE IMPS, THE SUPER-PETS, THE BIZZARO VILLAINS...
HA! THE WHITE LIGHT OF TRUTH HAS LED ME TO HIM! HE IS SOMEWHERE WITHIN THIS BUILDING...


...AND NOW HE MUST FACE THE SCOURGE OF THE SUPREMIUM MAN!
GOOD GOD! WHAT IS IT ABOUT DAZZLE COMICS? WE GOT ATTACKED BY CYBERZERK, THEN BY OMNIMAN, NOW THIS GUY!
WHY DON'T OTHER COMPANIES GET THIS PROBLEM?
WELL, I HEARD THAT DOCTOR DOOM ONCE ROUGHED UP STAN LEE BACK IN THE 'SIXTIES...
UH... I FEEL PAINT. I BETTER GET OUTSIDE.
YOU FEEL FAINT? OH, ETHAN, ARE YOU OKAY?
UH... SURE, I JUST "FEEL FAINT", OKAY?
WHAT?
"I FEEL PAINT". YOU KNOW. I NEED A "CHANGE" OF AIR.
HUH? OH,. OH, RIGHT! "FAINT". I GET IT. SORRY, YOU GO AHEAD.

ENOUGH! THE MOMENT OF MY VENGENCE IS AT HAND! WITH BUT A TOUCH OF MY RUBY GEM, YOUR OFFICE WALL TRANSMUTES TO VAPOR!
AAAA! MY PLANT! HE VAPORIZED MY PLANT! DIANA, THIS GUY MEANS BUSINESS!
OF COURSE I MEAN BUSINESS! THE ENERGIES IN MY WHITE GEM SEEK TO FUSE WITH THOSE IN THE BODY OF MY ENEMY, DRAWING ME TO HIM!
OBVIOUSLY, NEITHER OF YOU IS THE IVORY ICON, SO WHERE...?
YOU DON'T HAVE TO LOOK ANY FURTHER, YOU RAINBOW REPROBATE...
THANKS TO ETHAN CRANE ALERTING ME TO YOUR PRESENCE HERE, I'VE FOUND YOU!
THEN YOU'VE FOUND YOUR DOOM! MY WHITE JEWEL IS ALREADY PULSING, ANXIOUS TO FUSE WITH SOMEONE WHO HAS ALSO BEEN EXPOSED TO ITS RADIANCE!
IT WILL OBEY YOU!
HEY, LISTEN, THAT'S MY SUPREME! YOU DON'T HAVE A CHANCE!
HA HA! CHANCE IS EXACTLY WHAT I HAVE ON MY SIDE, THANKS TO THIS PROBABILITY-ALTERING SAPPHIRE SUPREMIUM!
I HAVE ONLY TO ACTIVATE IT FOR THE MOST OUTLANDISH CHANCE COINCIDENCES TO HAPPEN...
HEY! HEY, WHAT IS THIS!

YOU CHANGED THE OFFICE WHILE I WAS AWAY, DIDN'T YOU?
THERE'S DEFINITELY SOMETHING DIFFERENT...
OH NO! FOR GOD'S SAKE, KEEP HIM AWAY FROM THE SUPREMIUM! I CAN'T TAKE ALL THOSE ARMS! NOT AGAIN...
OH! THAT'S IT! THE WALL'S GONE. I KNOW THERE WAS SOMETHING...
BILLY, GET AWAY FROM THEM! THAT'S SUPREME AND A DANGEROUS SUPER-VILLAIN!
"SUPER-VILLAIN"? DIANA, I KNOW THESE PEOPLE! THEY PREFER THE TERM "PLAUSIBILITY CHALLENGED AND DIFFERENTLY MORAL."
LET ME TALK TO HIM. IT'LL BE LIKE WHEN I WAS IN GROUP.
BILLY...
WHAT'S THIS? DOES MY OBM DETECT ANOTHER SUPREMIUM-ALTERED PRESENCE IN THE ROOM?


HI! MY NAME'S BILLY. I'M "DOWN" WITH A WHOLE BUNCH OF YOU MISUNDERSTOOD SO-CALLED MEGA-CRIMINALS ALREADY, BUT WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
OH NO. I'VE GOT A REALLY BAD FEELING ABOUT ALL THIS...
CAN IT BE? DOES THIS STRANGELY FAMILIAR FIGURE HAVE TRACES OF SUPREMIUM IN HIS SYSTEM?

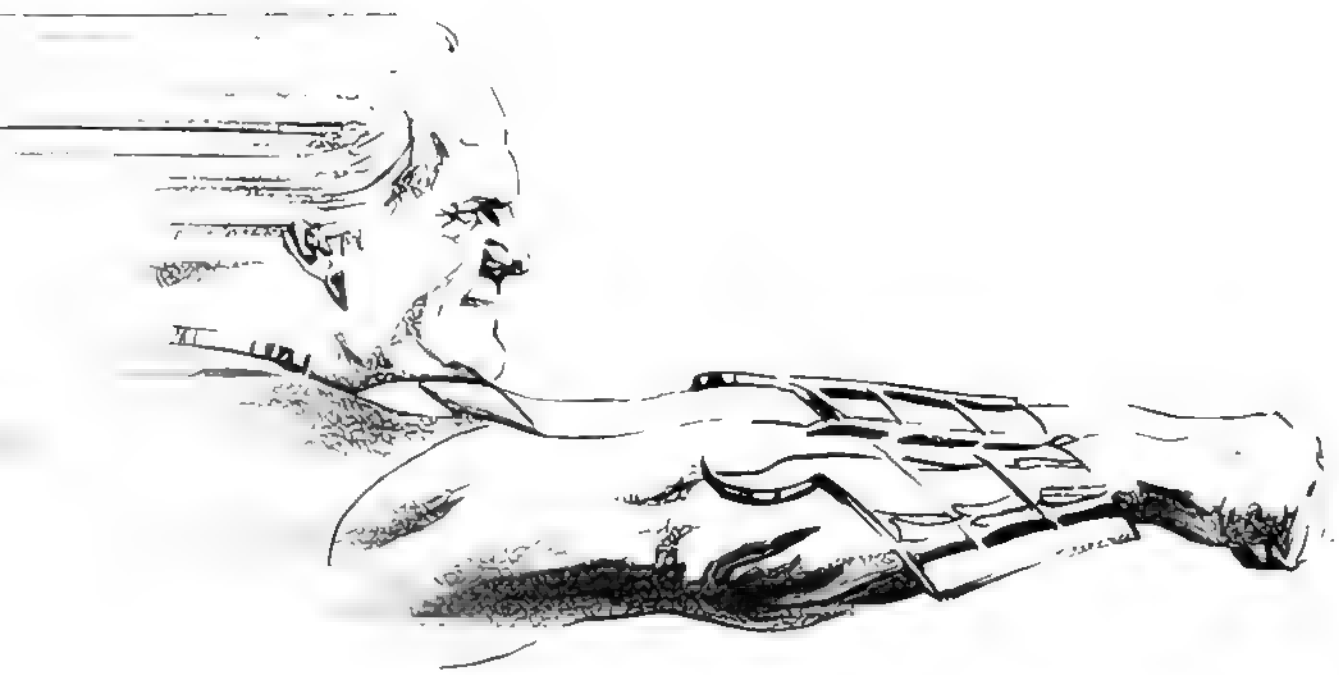
I'VE LIKE, I MET SZAZS, YOU KNOW SZAZS? AND EMERPUS, OH, YEAH, AND ALL THE MIRROR GUYS LIKE KORGO, AND THE TELEVILLAIN.
HE LET'S ME CALL HIM "TEL".
W-WAIT! MY WHITE GEM, IS PULSING VIOLET AGAIN, AND THE OTHERS ARE FLASHING!
THE SUPREMIUM IN YOUR TISSUE MUST BE CAUSING A REACTION!

SEE? THE VIBE'S BETWEEN US ARE GOOD! I'VE ALWAYS BEEN SORT OF AN OUTSIDER AND A REBEL MYSELF. I REALLY FEEL WE COULD BOND...
NO! NO, I DON'T THINK THAT'S A GOOD IDEA! I'VE GOT THE STRANGEST FEELING THAT IF YOU TOUCH ME WE MIGHT BOTH...

WH-WHAT HAPPENED? WHERE DID HE GO?
A-AND HOW COME I'M WEARING HIS CLOTHES ALL OF A SUDDEN?
GREAT LEAPING LEFTONS! TH-THE TWO OF THEM HAVE FUSED INTO ONE BEING!
HIS BILLY'S MIND IN CONTROL, DO YOU THINK?
WELL, IT'S NEVER BEEN IN CONTROL BEFORE...
WH-WHAT'S HAPPENED TO MY EARS? OH MY GOD! PEOPLE WILL THINK I'M A TREKKIE!

BUT THEN, THAT'S HARDLY IMPORTANT WHEN MY WHITE JEWEL SEEMS TO HAVE BURNED OUT WHEN WE MERGED! MY COLLECTION IS RUINED!
W-WAIT A MINUTE! WHAT COLLECTION? WHOSE VOICE WAS THAT IN MY HEAD?
HE'S RAVING...
OF COURSE, I'M RAVING! THIS IS YOUR FAULT! YOU'VE DELIBERATELY TRIED TO DESTROY MY MIND!
WELL, IT HASN'T WORKED! MY PERSONALITY IS COMPLETELY STABLE! IN FACT, BOTH OF THEM ARE!
BILLY, I DIDN'T...
DON'T "BILLY" ME! WHO'S BILLY? I'M THE SUPREMIUM MAN!
I'M A SUPER-VILLAIN! I MUST BE! WHY ELSE WOULD THEY PUT ME IN MISKATONIC ASYLUM?
BILLY, MAYBE THIS WAS THE WRONG DAY TO START WORK...
GET AWAY FROM ME! DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND? MY COLLECTION IS FLAWED! I NO LONGER HAVE ANY WHITE SUPREMIUM! I HAVE TO FIND SOME!
THAT'S NOT POSSIBLE. SUPREMIUM NO LONGER EXISTS IN THIS REALITY. LOOK, BILLY...
MY NAME ISN'T BILLY, AND IF THERE'S NO SUPREMIUM HERE, I MUST GO TO A PLACE WHERE THERE IS!
IN FACT, THANKS TO MY AMBER SUPREMIUM AND ITS TIME --
HE'S GONE! BOY...
THAT SUPREMIUM, HUH?

LATOR...
THIS IS YOUR APARTMENT? WOW.
WHY WOULD ANYBODY LIVE HERE IF THEY HAD A FLYING CITADEL?
I DON'T KNOW, I GUESS I LIKE BEING AROUND REAL PEOPLE SOMETIMES.
I HOPE THAT INCLUDES ME.
SO, DO YOU STILL HAVE ANY ANXIETIES OVER THE POSSIBLE REPERCUSSIONS OF OUR...YOU KNOW.
RELATIONSHIP.
DIANA, AFTER LAST NIGHT, I DON'T HAVE ANY ANXIETIES ABOUT ANYTHING. I WAS PROBABLY JUST OVER-REACTING BEFORE.
I MEAN, I'M SUPREME, AND I'M DATING THE MOST BEAUTIFUL GIRL I'VE EVER SEEN. I DON'T KNOW, WHAT DO YOU THINK?
HAVE I FORGOTTEN ANYTHING?
Next: NEW JACK CITY!
Coming in this issue: See the Squire confronted by "The Land of a Thousand Ominents"
A Special Report Novel
Avenger



"HELLO, DIANA?
"IT'S ETHAN. IF YOU'RE THERE, PICK UP.
"OKAY, LISTEN, I JUST WANT YOU TO KNOW I'LL BE LATE FOR OUR DATE THIS EVENING. SOMETHING'S COME UP.
"WHAT IT IS, THE SPYGLASS IN MY... IN SUPREME'S CITADEL REGISTERED THE SUDDEN APPEARANCE OF SOMETHING VERY LARGE IN A REMOTE HIMALAYAN VALLEY.
"WE'RE TALKING SOMETHING AS BIG AS A TOWN, APPEARING SPONTANEOUSLY FROM NOWHERE.
"I KNOW WE WERE GOING TO GO THROUGH THE NEXT ISSUE OF OMNIMAN TONIGHT, BUT THIS COULD BE IMPORTANT, AND SHOULDN'T TAKE ME LONG.
"IT'S PROBABLY JUST AN ALIEN INVASION OR SOMETHING, BUT YOU NEVER KNOW. YOU GO AHEAD AND EAT, AND I'LL TURN UP WHEN I CAN.
"OKAY, THAT'S ALL. I LO...
"I LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU LATER.
"BYE."

SUPREME

NEW JACK CITY!

GREAT BUBBLING BUCKMINSTER-FULLERENE! IT'S AN ENTIRE CITY! HOW CAN SOMETHING AS MASSIVE AS THIS HAVE JUST MATERIALIZED?

NOT ONLY THAT, BUT WHAT SORT OF CITY IS THIS, ANYWAY? ITS BUILDINGS DISPLAY A RANGE OF STYLES THAT SHOULDN'T EXIST TOGETHER!

THERE ARE WHAT APPEAR TO BE SLEEK, MODERN AMERICAN SKYSCRAPERS NEXT TO STRUCTURES THAT SEEM BASED ON FORMS FROM MYTHOLOGY!

EVEN IF SOME ALIEN CULTURE HAD SOMEHOW TELEPORTED AN ADVANCE OUTPOST HERE, WHY SHOULD ITS DESIGN EVOKE SUCH VERY HUMAN ASSOCIATIONS?

AND YET, IF IT'S OF HUMAN ORIGIN, WHY SHOULD IMMENSE STATUES OF TEUTONIC AND ROMAN GODS LOOM OVER WHAT LOOK LIKE 1930'S BROOKLYN STREETS?

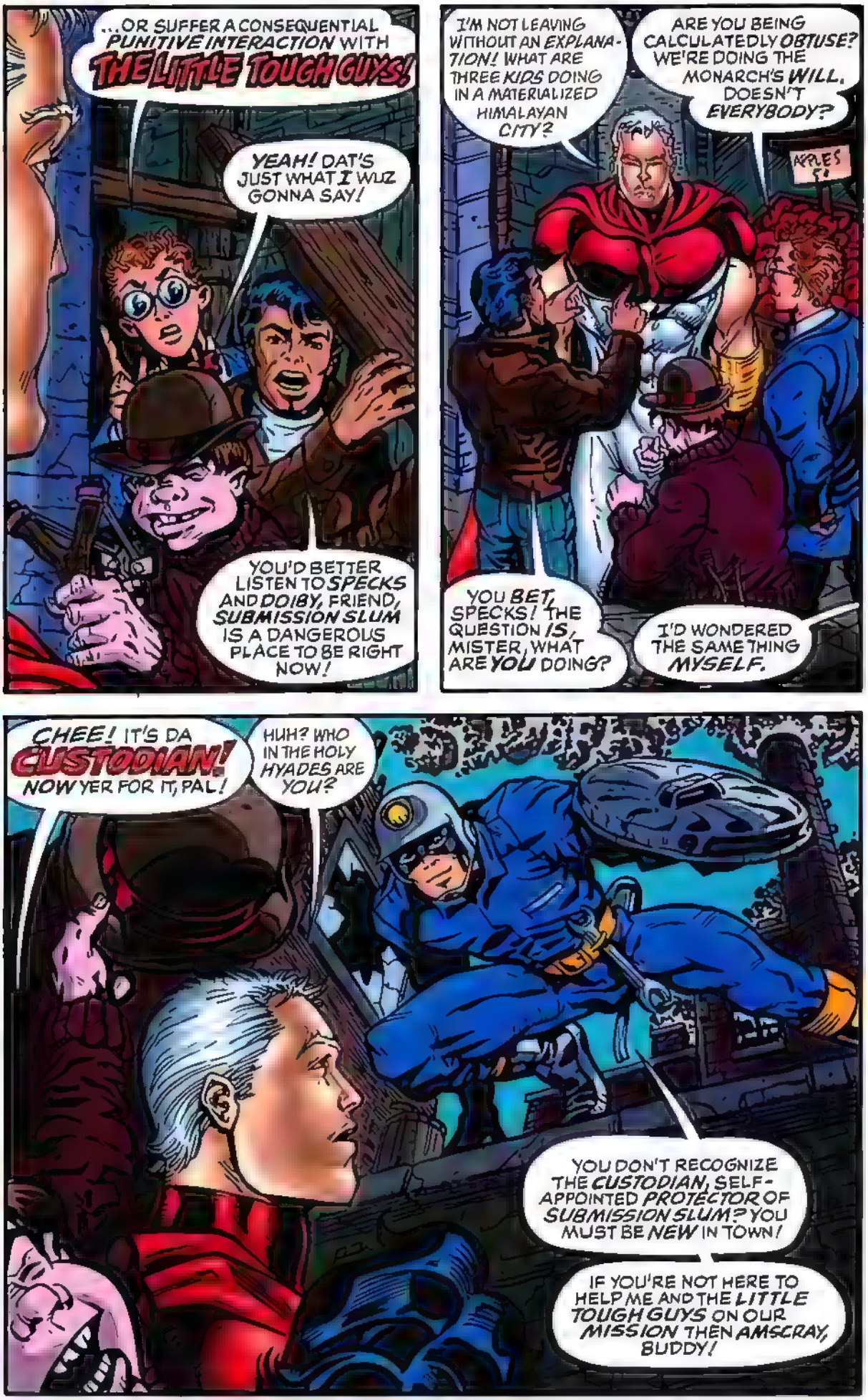
MY GOD, THEY'RE AN EXACT REPRODUCTION, RIGHT DOWN TO THE CIGAR BUTTS SMOLDERING IN THE GUTTERS! THE DETAIL AND TEXTURE ARE PERFECT!

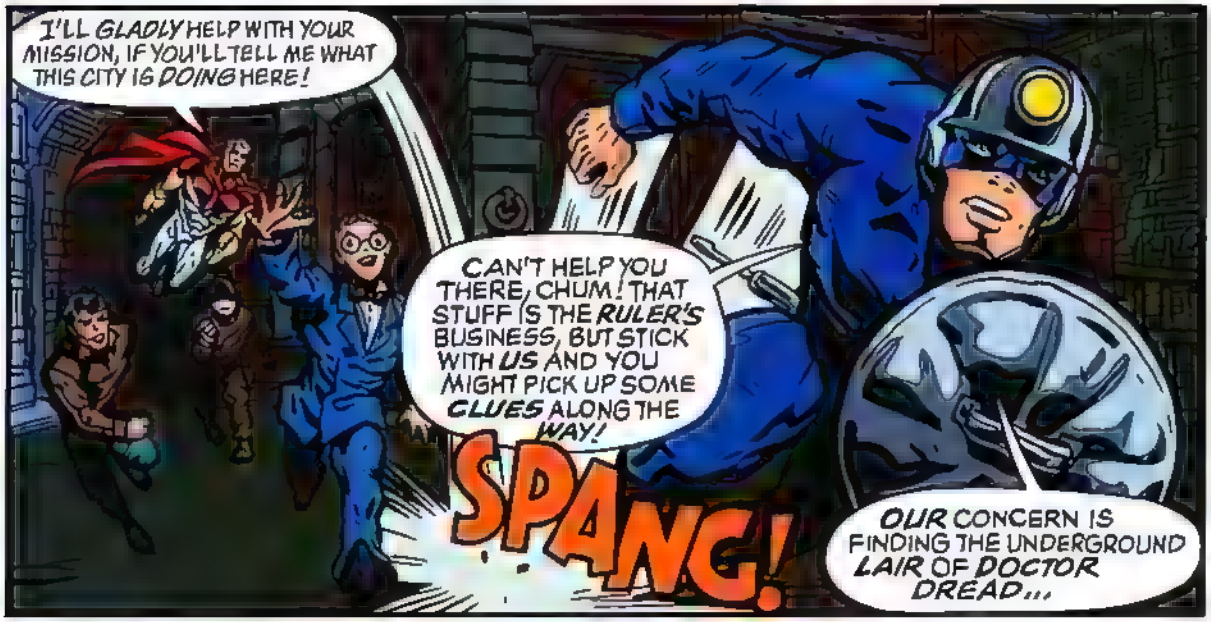
WHAT ON EARTH IS THIS PLACE?

HEY YOUSE, YA BIG GORILLA! WHAT'S DA BIG IDEA WIT' MUSCLIN' IN ON OUR TOIF? OF ALL DA NOIVE!

I CONCUR! YOU'D BEST AMELIORATE YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES BY FURNISHING AN EXPLICATORY ACCOUNT THEREOF, MISTER...

HUH?


...OR SUFFER A CONSEQUENTIAL PUNITIVE INTERACTION WITH THE LITTLE TOUGH GUYS!
YEAH! DAT'S JUST WHAT I WUZ GONNA SAY!
YOU'D BETTER LISTEN TO SPECKS AND DOIBY, FRIEND, SUBMISSION SLUM IS A DANGEROUS PLACE TO BE RIGHT NOW!
I'M NOT LEAVING WITHOUT AN EXPLANATION! WHAT ARE THREE KIDS DOING IN A MATERIALIZED HIMALAYAN CITY?
ARE YOU BEING CALCULATEDLY OBTUSE? WE'RE DOING THE MONARCH'S WILL. DOESN'T EVERYBODY?
APPLES $1
YOU BET, SPECKS! THE QUESTION IS, MISTER, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
I'D WONDERED THE SAME THING MYSELF.
CHEE! IT'S DA CUSTODIAN! NOW YER FOR IT, PAL!
HUH? WHO IN THE HOLY HYADES ARE YOU?
YOU DON'T RECOGNIZE THE CUSTODIAN, SELF-APPOINTED PROTECTOR OF SUBMISSION SLUM? YOU MUST BE NEW IN TOWN!
IF YOU'RE NOT HERE TO HELP ME AND THE LITTLE TOUGH GUYS ON OUR MISSION THEN AMSCRAY, BUDDY!


I'LL GLADLY HELP WITH YOUR MISSION, IF YOU'LL TELL ME WHAT THIS CITY IS DOING HERE!
CAN'T HELP YOU THERE, CHUM! THAT STUFF IS THE RULER'S BUSINESS, BUT STICK WITH US AND YOU MIGHT PICK UP SOME CLUES ALONG THE WAY!
SPANG!
OUR CONCERN IS FINDING THE UNDERGROUND LAIR OF DOCTOR DREAD...

...SOMEWHERE IN THE DEPTHS BELOW THIS COLLAPSED SUBWAY-MOUTH THAT THE CITIZENS OF SUB-MISSION SLUM KNOW AS THE WONDER WELL!
HURTLING HADRONS! IT'S A GAPING PIT DROPPING AWAY TO THE BOWELS OF THE EARTH!
WHO IS THIS DOCTOR DREAD, AND WHY ARE YOU SO ANXIOUS TO FIND HIM?

DREAD, A MASTER OF BOTH SCIENCE AND SORCERY, TURNED EVIL AFTER HIS PAPER ON VOODOO THERMO-DYNAMICS FAILED TO WIN THE NOBEL PRIZE!
HE'S CURRENTLY PLANNING TO AWAKEN A DIABOLICAL MONSTER WHO WILL DESTROY THE EARTH!
DAT'S RIGHT! AN' WE GOTTA STOP DA BUM!
AND YOU'RE SURE HE'S DOWN HERE?

ASSUREDLY! THIS THAUMATURGICAL DECOR IS A HALLMARK MOTIF ASSOCIATED WITH THE DASTARDLY DOCTOR!
HMM! THERE'S CERTAINLY AN OCCULT ATMOSPHERE DOWN HERE, ALMOST AS IF SOMEONE HAD BEEN WORKING BLACK MAGIC!
Y-YOU'RE RIGHT! WE'RE TOO LATE! DOCTOR DREAD HAS ALREADY INVOKED THE MOST FEARED MONSTER OF THEM ALL...

...BARAGOOM
THE CREATURE THAT WALKED LIKE A THING!
COWER, ACCURSED IN-SECTS! COWER BEFORE THE MIGHT OF DREAD!
THE WORLD SCORNED MY WORK AND CALLED ME A MADMAN, BUT WITH BARAGOOM AT MY SIDE, I SHALL DESTROY THEM ALL! HA HA HA HA HA HA!

LEAVE THE MONSTER TO ME, CUSTODIAN! HE'S MORE IN MY LEAGUE!
YOU AND YOUR YOUNG FRIENDS TAKE CARE OF DOCTOR DREAD!
WELL BE GLAD TO!
RROOOOO!
CAREFUL, JOHNNY! DREAD IS STILL ONE TRICKY SON-OF-A-GUN...

OH YEAH? WELL, IT LOOKS LIKE OUR NEW BUDDY IS ABOUT TO KAYO THAT BIG PALOOKA BARAGOOM! MAYBE DA DOC AIN'T FEELIN' SO TRICKY RIGHT NOW!
CURSE YOU, CUSTODIAN! YOU AND THOSE DETESTABLE CHILDREN HAVE WRECKED MY PLANS YET AGAIN!
I'VE NO CHOICE BUT TO SUMMON A MAGICAL FOG AND CONCEAL MY ESCAPE!

THERE! THAT SHOULD CONSIGN THE MONSTER TO WHATEVER INFERNAL PIT HE CAME FROM! HOW ARE THE REST OF YOU DOING?
>COUGH< NOT SO GOOD! DREAD IS ESCAPING UNDER COVER OF THIS ENCHANTED MIST! WE HAVE TO FOLLOW HIM!
I SEE DA JOIK! HE'S HEADIN' DOWN DIS PASSAGE-WAY...

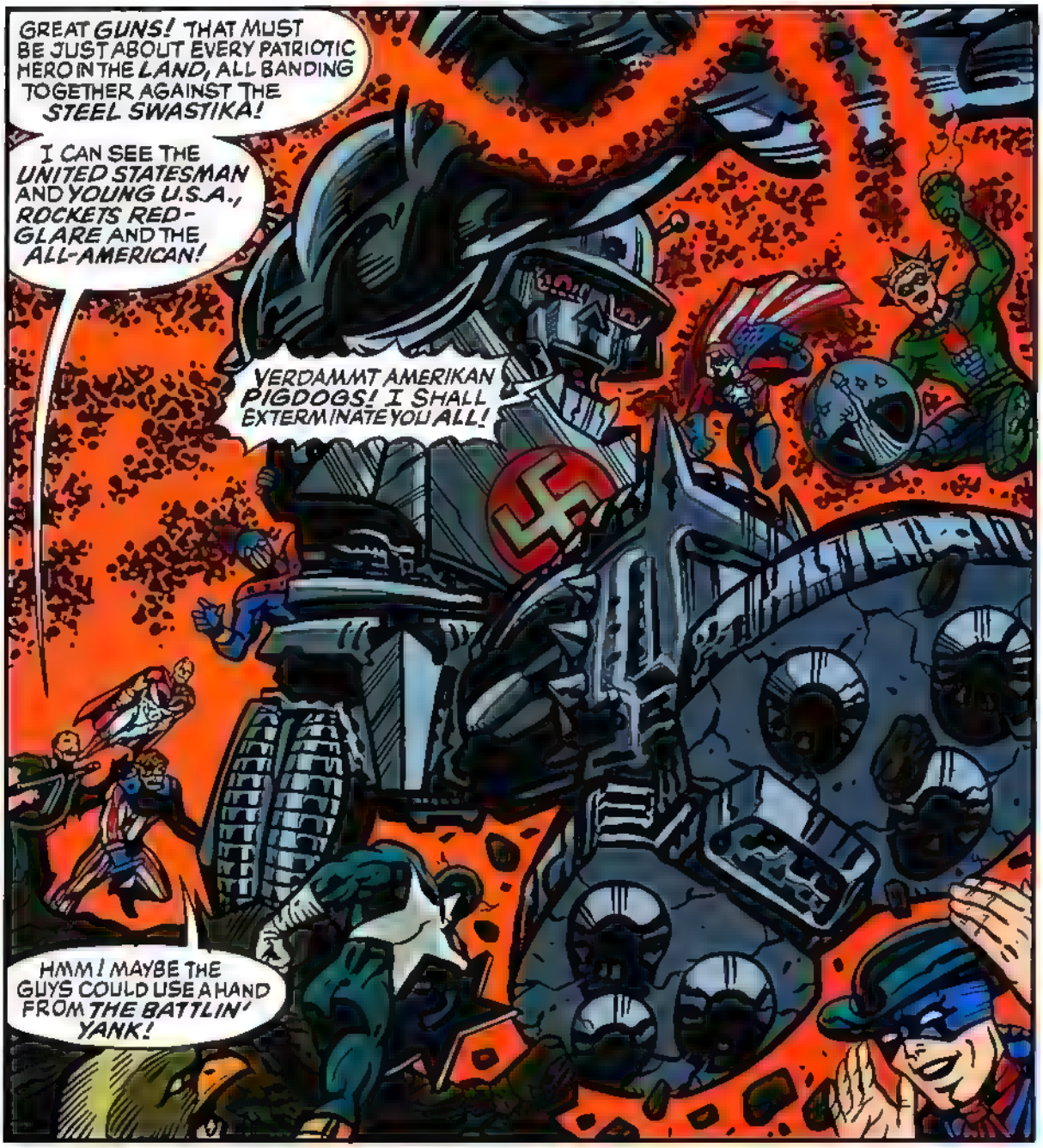
DOIBY IS CORRECT! THE MISCREANT IS SCANT METERS TO THE FORE OF US!
AFTER HIM, KIDS!
WAIT FOR ME! SINCE THIS IS MAGICAL FOG, I'M NO BETTER AT FINDING MY WAY IN IT THAN ANYONE ELSE!
AND ANYWAY, WHERE DOES THIS PASSAGEWAY...

...LEAD TO?
THOSE AIN'T REGULATION THREADS YOU'RE WEARIN', PRIVATE! I COULD HAVE YOU ON K.P. DUTY FOR A MONTH!
LUCKY FOR YOU WE'RE UNDER ATTACK RIGHT NOW AND NEED EVERY SORRY, FLEA-BITTEN GOLDBRICK WE CAN GET! IN OTHER WORDS, SOLDIER...

...WELCOME TO
SGT. STRONG'S
DAMBUSTIN' DOGFACES!
NOW, SUCK IN THAT GUT, PRIVATE, AND GET READY FOR A TUSSLE WITH ADOLF'S PRIZE GOOSE-STEPPERS!
STRONG, WE CAN'T WAIT ANY LONGER! THE RATZIS ARE ABOUT TO ATTACK AND I CAN FEEL MY TIGER-GLAND KICKING INTO ACTION!
NOT ONLY THAT, BUT THOSE SEIG-HEILERS ARE BEING LED BY MY OLD FOE THE STEEL SWASTIKA!

HUH? THIS CAN'T BE WORLD WAR II! MOMENTS AGO I WAS IN CATACOMBS UNDER BROOKLYN!
ANYWAY, ISN'T THIS WHOLE PLACE CONTAINED IN A HIMALAYAN VALLEY?
YOU'LL HAVE TO ASK OUR RULER ABOUT THAT, PRIVATE! ME, SOLLY, GINO, SEAMUS AND THE REST HAVE OUR HANDS FULL HELPING THE BATTLIN' YANK HERE!

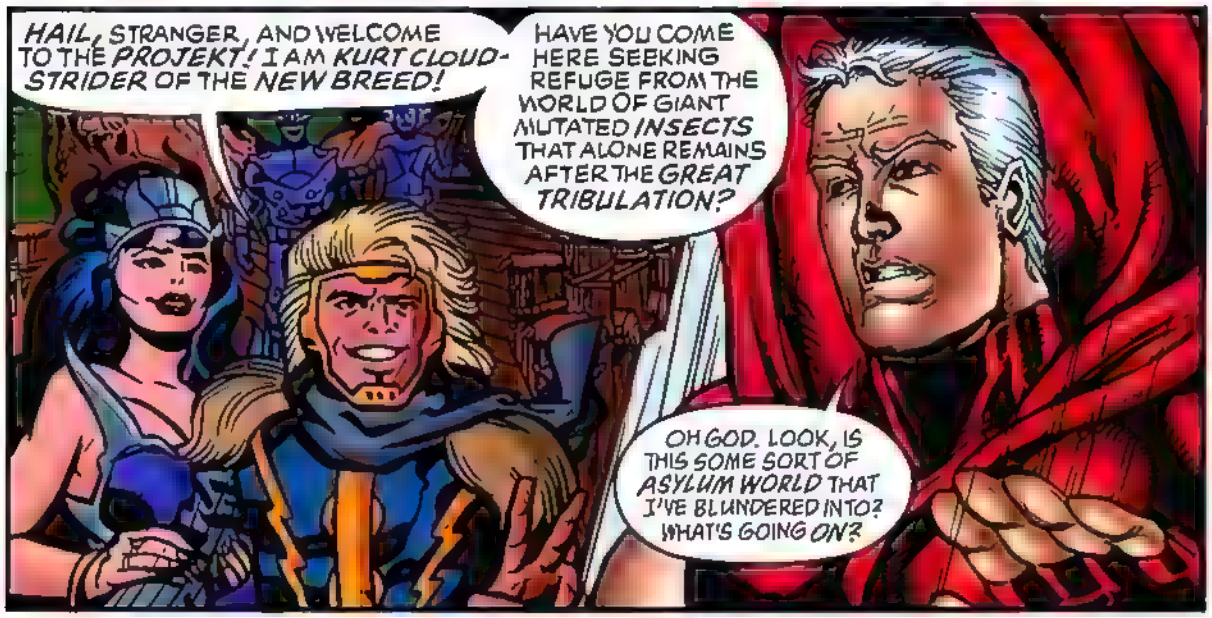
BUT THIS IS CRAZY! THERE ARE BUILDINGS STRETCHING AWAY AT THE BATTLEFIELD'S EDGE! THIS WHOLE WARZONE IS SOMEHOW CONTAINED IN A PEACEFUL CITY!
YEAH, WELL, IT'S OUR FOLKS AND SWEETHEARTS BACK HOME THAT WE'RE FIGHTING THIS CRUMMY WAR FOR, SOLDIER!
SEEMS WE'RE NOT THE ONLY ONES WHO FEEL LIKE THAT, SARGE! LOOK!

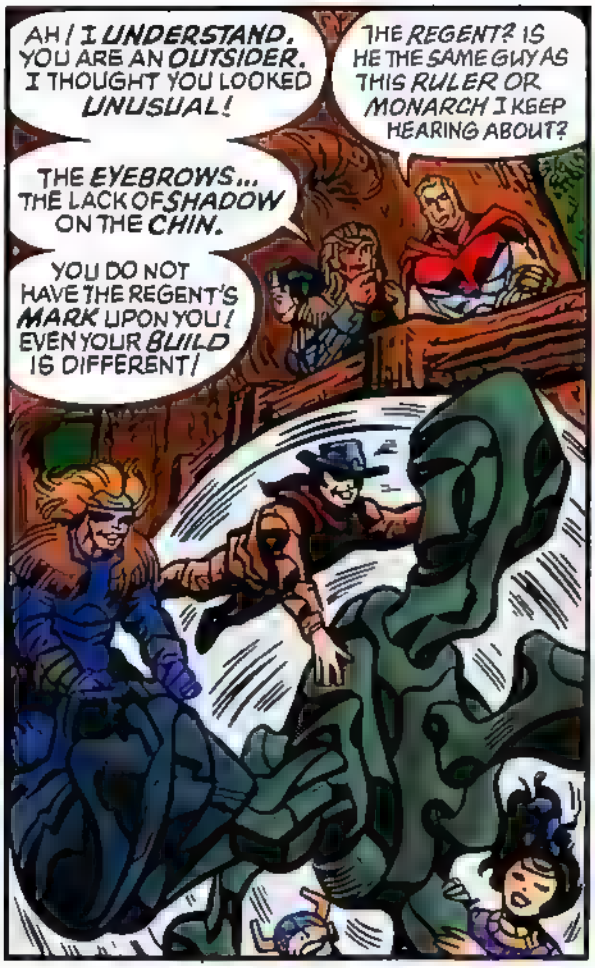

GREAT GUNS! THAT MUST BE JUST ABOUT EVERY PATRIOTIC HERO IN THE LAND, ALL BANDING TOGETHER AGAINST THE STEEL SWASTIKA!
I CAN SEE THE UNITED STATESMAN AND YOUNG U.S.A., ROCKETS RED-GLARE AND THE ALL-AMERICAN!
VERDAMMT AMERIKAN PIGDOGS! I SHALL EXTERMINATE YOU ALL!
HMM! MAYBE THE GUYS COULD USE A HAND FROM THE BATTLIN' YANK!

SERGEANT, I'M CLEARLY NOT NEEDED HERE... AND I'M NOT GETTING ANY CLOSER TO DISCOVERING WHERE THIS PLACE CAME FROM!
QUIT GRIPIN', SOLDIER! IF YA AIN'T GONNA DIG IN AND HUG DIRT WITH THE OTHER JOES, THEN BEAT IT!
SEE THAT TREELINE TO THE EAST? MAYBE YOU'LL FIND WHAT YER LOOKIN' FOR THERE!

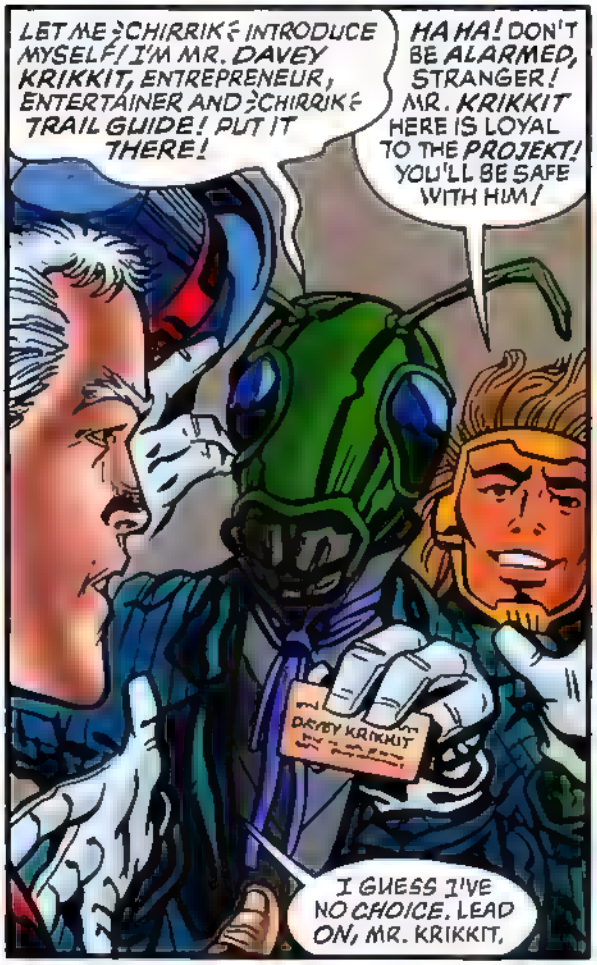
I CERTAINLY HOPE SO! THIS PLACE IS MAKING LESS SENSE TO ME BY THE INSTANT!
ONE MOMENT IT'S A SOARING FUTURISTIC UTOPIA, THE NEXT IT'S A DEPRESSION-ERA SLUM, OR MAYBE WAR-TORN EUROPE IN THE 1940'S!
WHATEVER LURKS BEYOND THIS REDWOOD BARRIER, IT CERTAINLY CAN'T BE ANY MORE...

...CONFUSING...


HAIL, STRANGER, AND WELCOME TO THE PROJEKT! I AM KURT CLOUD-STRIDER OF THE NEW BREED!
HAVE YOU COME HERE SEEKING REFUGE FROM THE WORLD OF GIANT MUTATED INSECTS THAT ALONE REMAINS AFTER THE GREAT TRIBULATION?
OH GOD. LOOK, IS THIS SOME SORT OF ASYLUM WORLD THAT I'VE BLUNDERED INTO? WHAT'S GOING ON?

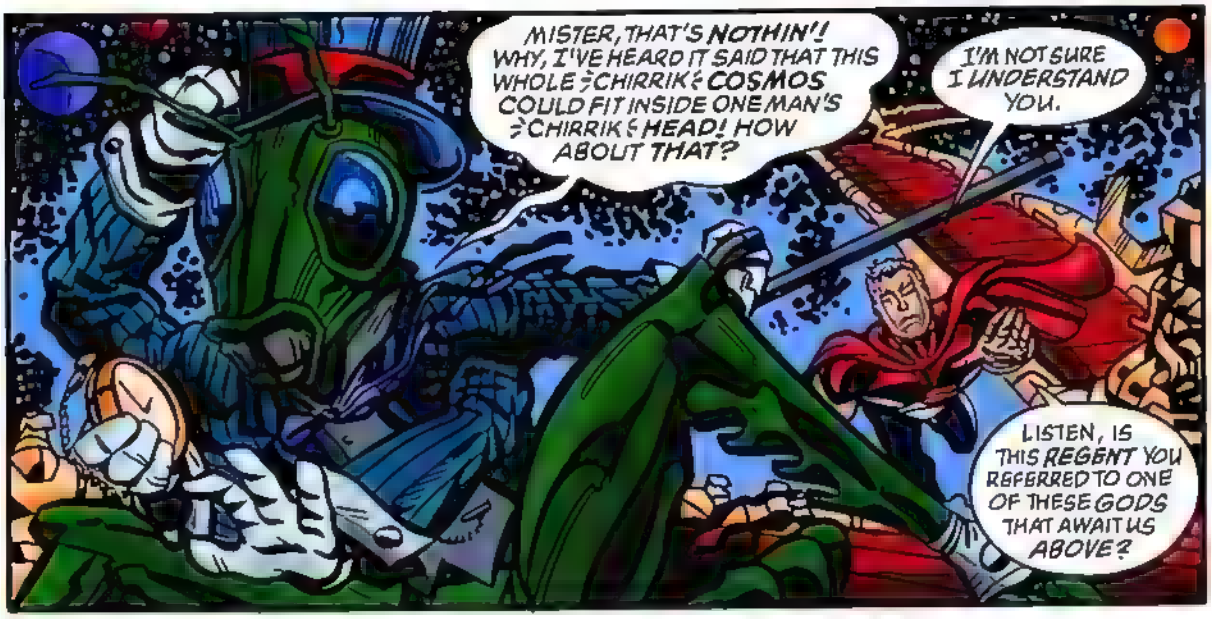

AH! I UNDERSTAND. YOU ARE AN OUTSIDER. I THOUGHT YOU LOOKED UNUSUAL!
THE REGENT? IS HE THE SAME GUY AS THIS RULER OR MONARCH I KEEP HEARING ABOUT?
THE EYEBROWS... THE LACK OF SHADOW ON THE CHIN.
YOU DO NOT HAVE THE REGENT'S MARK UPON YOU! EVEN YOUR BUILD IS DIFFERENT!

OF COURSE! HE HAS MANY NAMES. HERE IN THE PROJECT HE IS THE ALL-FATHER, THE SOURCE OF OUR EXISTENCE!
IF YOU WOULD SEEK HIM, YOU MUST GO BEYOND THESE WORLD-WOODS--
--EVEN UNTO THE REALM OF THE GODS THEMSELVES!
IF YOU NEED A >CHIRRIK< GUIDE, MAY I OFFER MY SERVICES?


LET ME >CHIRRIK< INTRODUCE MYSELF! I'M MR. DAVEY KRIKKIT, ENTREPRENEUR, ENTERTAINER AND >CHIRRIK< TRAIL GUIDE! PUT IT THERE!
HA HA! DON'T BE ALARMED, STRANGER! MR. KRIKKIT HERE IS LOYAL TO THE PROJEKT! YOU'LL BE SAFE WITH HIM!
DAVEY KRIKKIT
I GUESS I'VE NO CHOICE. LEAD ON, MR. KRIKKIT.

THAT'S THE >CHIRRIK< TICKET! FOLLOW ME, SON! I'LL LEAD YOU TO THE >CHIRRIK< SAPPHIRE STAIRWAY, AND THE CELESTIAL PLATEAU BEYOND!
BY THE WAY, HOSS, WHAT'S YOUR >CHIRRIK< NAME?
I'M CALLED SUPREME.
HOW CAN THIS EXIST? I'VE VISITED THREE FULLY DEVELOPED REALITIES IN THIS VALLEY, YET THERE WAS NOTHING HERE THIS MORNING!

YEAH, WELL, THAT'S THE >CHIRRIK< REGENT FOR YOU! CREATES A WHOLE >CHIRRIK< UNIVERSE BEFORE BREAKFAST LIKE IT WAS NOTHING!
ANYWAY, HERE'S THE >CHIRRIK< SAPPHIRE STAIRWAY I TOLD YOU ABOUT! WE CAN FOLLOW IT ALL THE WAY UP TO THE >CHIRRIK< MESA OF THE IMMORTALS!
I- IT'S IMMENSE! HOW CAN ALL THIS LANDSCAPE FIT INTO ONE REMOTE MOUNTAIN VALLEY?


MISTER, THAT'S NOTHIN'! WHY, I'VE HEARD IT SAID THAT THIS WHOLE >CHIRRIK< COSMOS COULD FIT INSIDE ONE MAN'S >CHIRRIK< HEAD! HOW ABOUT THAT?
I'M NOT SURE I UNDERSTAND YOU.
LISTEN, IS THIS REGENT YOU REFERRED TO ONE OF THESE GODS THAT AWAIT US ABOVE?

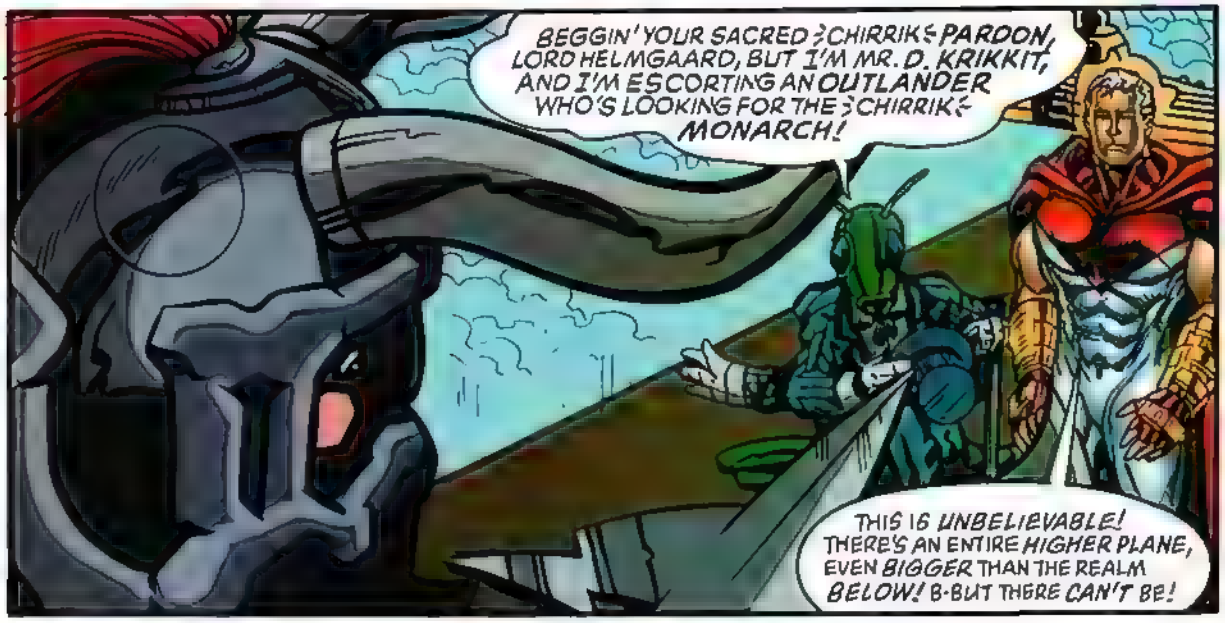
HA HA HA! WHY, THE VERY >CHIRRIK< IDEA! OF COURSE HE'S NOT! HE'S MUCH MORE IMPORTANT THAN THAT!
NOW HURRY ALONG, YOUNG FELLER! WE'VE QUITE A >CHIRRIK< CLIMB AHEAD OF US!
GREAT GAIA! YOU CAN SEE THE ENTIRE CITY FROM HERE, THE SKYSCRAPERS, THE FOREST...
THERE ARE SO MANY DIFFERENT DISTRICTS!

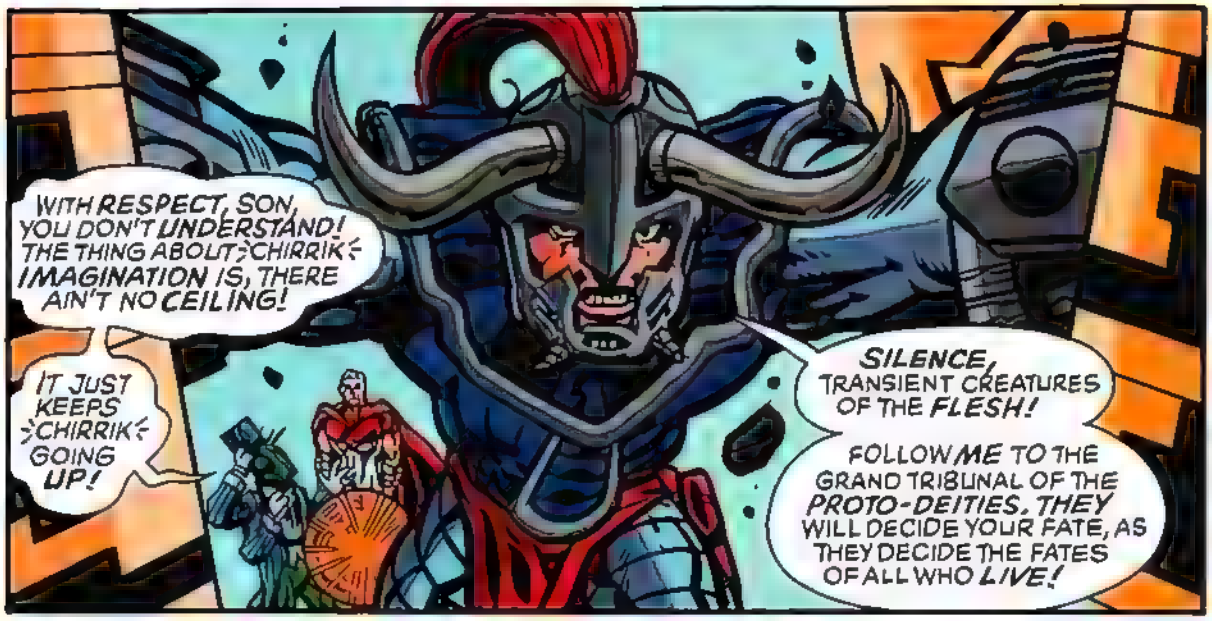
SURE IS >CHIRRIK< SOMETHIN', AIN'T IT? FROM HERE YOU CAN SEE SUBMISSION SLUM, WITH THE PRIMAL ZONE JUST BEYOND IT.
THEN OVER THERE WE GOT THE KIDS' CORRAL, THE GALACTEER'S MOONBASE AND THE >CHIRRIK< PARADOX AREA!
IT'S UNEARTHLY. THERE'S SOMETHING CHILDISH ABOUT IT... AND YET THERE'S ALSO SOMETHING THAT'S ALMOST DIVINE!

HAVEN'T YOU >CHIRRIK< HEARD, SON? THEY'RE THE SAME THING!
NOW, QUIT DRAGGIN' YOUR >CHIRRIK< HEELS! WE GOTTA GO UP THROUGH THIS >CHIRRIK< CLOUDBANK!
BUT WON'T THAT JUST BRING US OUT UP ABOVE THE FOGGY MOUNTAIN VALLEY THAT I SAW WHEN I ARRIVED?

I MEAN, THERE'S NOTHING ABOVE THE CLOUDLINE BUT CLEAR BLUE SKY! HOW CAN THIS BE THE CELESTIAL MESA OR WHATEVER IT WAS YOU SAID?
SON, I THINK YOU'D BEST ZIP YOUR >CHIRRIK< LIP FOR A SPELL, IN CASE YOU HADN'T

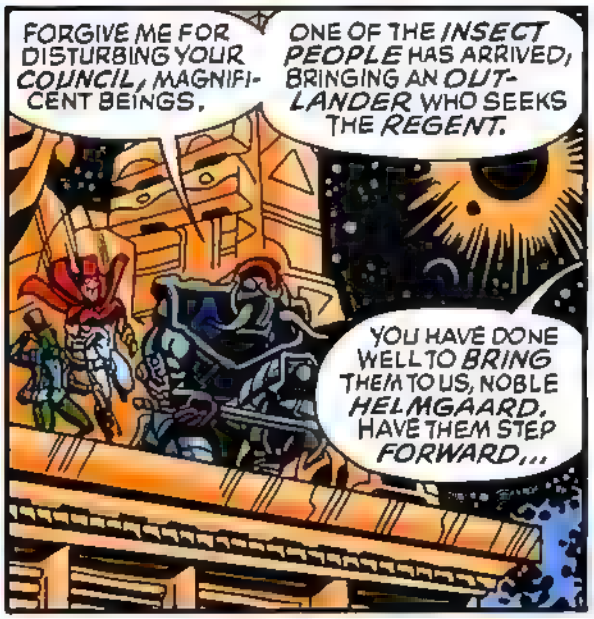
...WE'RE IN ≥CHIRRIK≤ COMPANY!
HOLD FAST, MORTALS!
YOU STAND BEFORE ALL-SEEING HELM-GAARD, WATCHING AT THE GLORY GATES!
WHO ARE YOU, AND WHAT BUSINESS DO YOU HAVE ON THE PLATEAU OF THE CELESTIAL ONES?


BEGGIN' YOUR SACRED ≥CHIRRIK≤ PARDON, LORD HELMGAARD, BUT I'M MR. D. KRIKKIT, AND I'M ESCORTING AN OUTLANDER WHO'S LOOKING FOR THE ≥CHIRRIK≤ MONARCH!
THIS IS UNBELIEVABLE! THERE'S AN ENTIRE HIGHER PLANE, EVEN BIGGER THAN THE REALM BELOW! B-BUT THERE CAN'T BE!


WITH RESPECT, SON, YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND! THE THING ABOUT ›CHIRRIK‹ IMAGINATION IS, THERE AIN'T NO CEILING!
IT JUST KEEPS ›CHIRRIK‹ GOING UP!
SILENCE, TRANSIENT CREATURES OF THE FLESH!
FOLLOW ME TO THE GRAND TRIBUNAL OF THE PROTO-DEITIES. THEY WILL DECIDE YOUR FATE, AS THEY DECIDE THE FATES OF ALL WHO LIVE!

"PROTO-DEITIES"? WHAT DOES HE MEAN?
HE MEANS THESE ARE THE ›CHIRRIK‹ BASIC MODELS, YOUNGSTER!
THEIR NAMES DON'T ›CHIRRIK‹ MATTER. THESE GODS ARE THE ORIGINAL ESSENCES OF EARTH'S GODS, WHETHER NORSE, OR GREEK, OR ›CHIRRIK‹ EGYPTIAN!

BUT THEIR ARMOR... THE WHOLE DECOR! IT LOOKS SOMEHOW FUTURISTIC DESPITE THE ARCHAIC ELEMENTS.
IT'S LIKE I ›CHIRRIK‹ SAID: THE NAMES AND FORMS DON'T ›CHIRRIK‹ MATTER. THEY DIFFER WITH EVERY ERA; EVERY ›CHIRRIK‹ HUMAN MIND THEY FILTER THROUGH!
NOW HUSH UP! I THINK WE'RE ›CHIRRIK‹ GETTING SOMEPLACE!


FORGIVE ME FOR DISTURBING YOUR COUNCIL, MAGNIFICENT BEINGS.
ONE OF THE INSECT PEOPLE HAS ARRIVED, BRINGING AN OUTLANDER WHO SEEKS THE REGENT.
YOU HAVE DONE WELL TO BRING THEM TO US, NOBLE HELMGAARD. HAVE THEM STEP FORWARD...

AND RECEIVE THE JUDGMENT OF THE GODS!!
I AM SOLORUS, INSIGNIFICANT ONES. THESE ARE MY BROTHERS, WODEK AND MARZEUS.
HOW MAY WE HELP YOU?
OH, I'M JUST PROUD TO BE IN YOUR ?CHIRRIK? GENERAL PROXIMITY, YOUR HOLINESS! IT'S MY FRIEND HERE WHO'S GOT ALL THE ?CHIRRIK? QUESTIONS!
UH, MY NAME'S SUPREME, CHAMPION OF TWENTIETH CENTURY EARTH. YOUR REALM SEEMS TO HAVE MANIFESTED IN ONE OF MY WORLD'S MOUNTAIN VALLEYS.
I JUST WONDERED WHY.

IF YOU WOULD KNOW THE WAY OF THINGS, THEN IT IS TRULY THE CREATOR THAT YOU SEEK.
PLACE YOURSELF WITHIN MY HANDS, AND YOU SHALL BE DELIVERED UP TO HIM.
SO LONG, SUPREME! HOPE YOU FIND WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR!
LOOK ME UP IF YOU'RE EVER BY THIS ;CHIRRIK; WAY AGAIN!
BE PREPARED, SPECK-THAT-CALLS-ITSELF-SUPREME! THE ONE YOU ARE TO MEET IS OF THE SOURCE, THE FOUNTAINHEAD OF ALL EXISTENCE!
HE IS MANIFESTED CURRENTLY WITHIN THE OMEGADROME, THE CENTRAL ALEPH-POINT OF ALL EXISTENCE!
YOU MAY REACH IT THROUGH THE NARROW GALLERY OF TRUTH.
MAY YOUR QUESTIONS FIND AN ANSWER, INFINITESIMAL ONE.
MAY YOU SURVIVE THE FABULOUS AND SEETHING CURRENTS OF CREATIVE FORCE THAT SWIRL ABOUT THE ALL-FATHER!
BUT I DON'T UNDERSTAND. ARE YOU PASSING ME ON TO YET ANOTHER INCREDIBLE LANDSCAPER?
IS THIS ALL-FATHER JUST ANOTHER CREATION OF THAT LANDSCAPER?
Y'KNOW, EVERYTHING'S CREATION. CREATION GOES ON ALL THE TIME. IT'S REALLY SOMETHIN'!
AS FOR ME, AH, Y'KNOW, I GET CALLED A LOT O' THINGS.
THEY CALL ME THE RULER, OR THE REGENT, OR THE MONARCH, OR THIS, OR THAT...

ME, I SORTA LIKE "KING."
"KING" WILL DO.
SO, ANYWAY, WHAT'S UP? YOU GOT A PROBLEM WITH SOMETHIN'?

I, UH...
WHAT ARE YOU, EXACTLY?
HMM. WELL, THAT'S KIND OF A TOUGH ONE. SEE, WHAT IT IS, YOU GOTTA KNOW SOMETHIN' ABOUT THE WORLD OF IDEAS.
IT'S LIKE, Y'KNOW, WHERE DO THEY COME FROM? WHERE DOES THE IDEA OF ANYTHIN' COME FROM? SEE WHAT I MEAN? IT'S A TOUGH QUESTION.
I THINK I MAY UNDERSTAND A LITTLE OF WHAT YOU'RE SAYING: I MYSELF HAVE ACCESS TO A REALM CALLED "IDEA SPACE"...
YEAH. YEAH, THAT'S GOOD. "IDEA SPACE." ONLY, THE NAME SHOULD BE PUNCHIER. SOMETHING LIKE, I DON'T KNOW, THE PSYCHOVERSE, OR THE COGNITIVE ZONE, OR WHATEVER.
ME, I CALL IT HOME.
HOME? YOU MEAN YOU'RE A NATIVE OF IMAGINARY SPACE, LIKE SOME OF THE DEMONS, GODS AND ANGELS I'VE ENCOUNTERED?
NAH. I'M JUST, LIKE, THIS GUY WHO COMMUTED TO IDEA SPACE WHEN HE WENT TO WORK EVERY DAY.
GUYS LIKE US, WE KINDA FARM IDEA SPACE FOR PRODUCE. THEY CALL US IMAGINEERS.

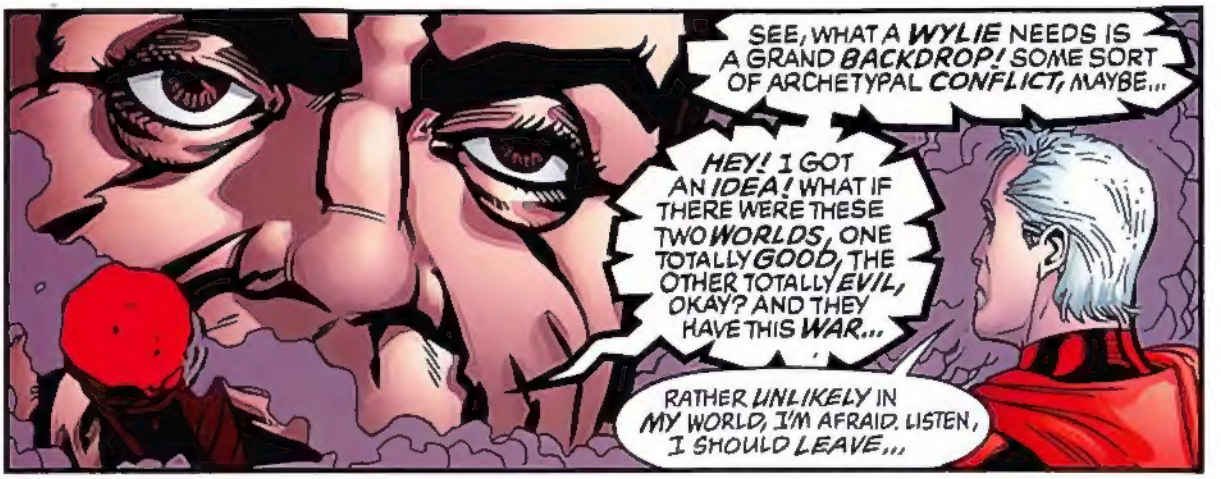
YOU MEAN SOMETHING LIKE AN ARTIST MIGHT BE SAID TO FARM IDEAS?
ARTIST, IMAGINEER, WHATEVER. THING IS, BACK THEN I WAS ONLY IN THE WORLD OF IDEAS PART TIME!
HEY, I HAD A LIFE TO RUN, KNOW WHAT I MEAN? BUT THINGS ARE DIFFERENT NOW. NOW, I'M FULLTIME. I'M A RESIDENT!
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? THAT YOU... I DON'T KNOW... THAT YOU DIED OR SOMETHING?
WELL, YEAH, BUT ONLY PHYSICALLY. THAT'S MY POINT. IT AIN'T THE PHYSICAL STUFF THAT'S IMPORTANT. IT DON'T LAST, YOU KNOW WHAT I'M SAYIN'?
WHAT'S IMPORTANT IS THE IDEA OF A THING. SEE, ALL WE ARE IS IDEAS.
YOU'RE SAYING PEOPLE ARE IDEAS?
SURE. THE IDEAS WE HAVE, THE IDEAS OTHER PEOPLE HAVE ABOUT US, THE IDEAS WE HAVE ABOUT OURSELVES... WHAT ELSE IS A PERSONALITY?
AND THE THING ABOUT IDEAS OVER BODIES IS, IDEAS DON'T DIE, AND ALL WE ARE IS IDEAS!
SO NOW YOU EXIST IN IDEA SPACE ALL THE TIME. DOES IT LIMIT YOU?
YOU'RE KIDDING! HAVING A BODY, THAT'S WHAT LIMITS A CREATOR! SEE, IT'S LIKE BRUSHES, PENS, HUMAN HANDS... IT ALL SLOWS YOU DOWN!
EVEN ME, ON A GOOD DAY, I'D ONLY DO, WHAT, A LOUSY NINE, TEN PAGES?

IT'S HAVIN' HANDS. THEY SLOW YOU DOWN. IT'S, LIKE, A DESIGN FLAW.
NOW, IN THE WORLD OF IDEAS, THERE AIN'T NO HANDS. THERE'S ONLY MIND. THE CREATIONS CAN JUST POUR OUT OF ME!
BUT IF YOU HAVE YOUR OWN REALM IN IDEA SPACE NOW, WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN MY WORLD?

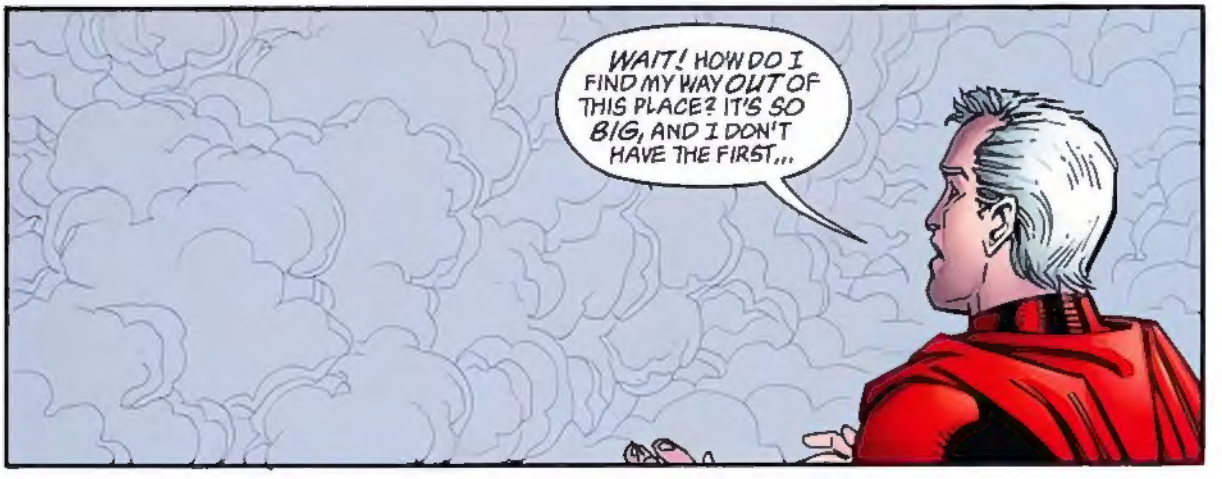
HEH. LET'S JUST SAY I'VE SPENT A LOT OF TIME IN WORLDS LIKE YOURS. HECK, I LIKE 'EM.
I LIKE ALL THE EXCITEMENT, ALL THE MAGIC, THE COSTUMES, EVERYTHING!
I FIGURED THIS WORLD WOULD MAKE A NICE HOLIDAY RETREAT, SOMEWHERE I COULD SET UP WITH MY COURT OF CONCEPTS ROUND ME.

WELL, THAT SHOULDN'T BE A PROBLEM. YOU'VE CHOSEN SOMEWHERE THAT'S REMOTE ENOUGH, WHERE YOUR CREATIONS CAN'T HARM ANYONE.
YEAH. I ALWAYS LIKE THAT HIDDEN VALLEY/SECRET KINGDOM KIND OF CONCEPT.
WORKS GREAT WITH CHARACTERS LIKE YOU! LEMME SEE, YOU'RE A WYLIE, AM I RIGHT?

A WYLIE? WHAT'S A WYLIE?
AH, IT'S AFTER THIS GUY PHIL WYLIE. WROTE A BOOK CALLED "GLADIATOR" SORTA INTRODUCED THE WHOLE SUPERMAN ARCHETYPE, THAT'S YOU, INCIDENTALLY.
IT'S LIKE, DARK DETECTIVE TYPES, WE CALL THEM GIBSONS. WARRIOR PRINCESS TYPES, THEY'RE MOULTONS.
I NEVER CREATED A WYLIE PERSONAL, LIKE. HANDLED A FEW, THOUGH.

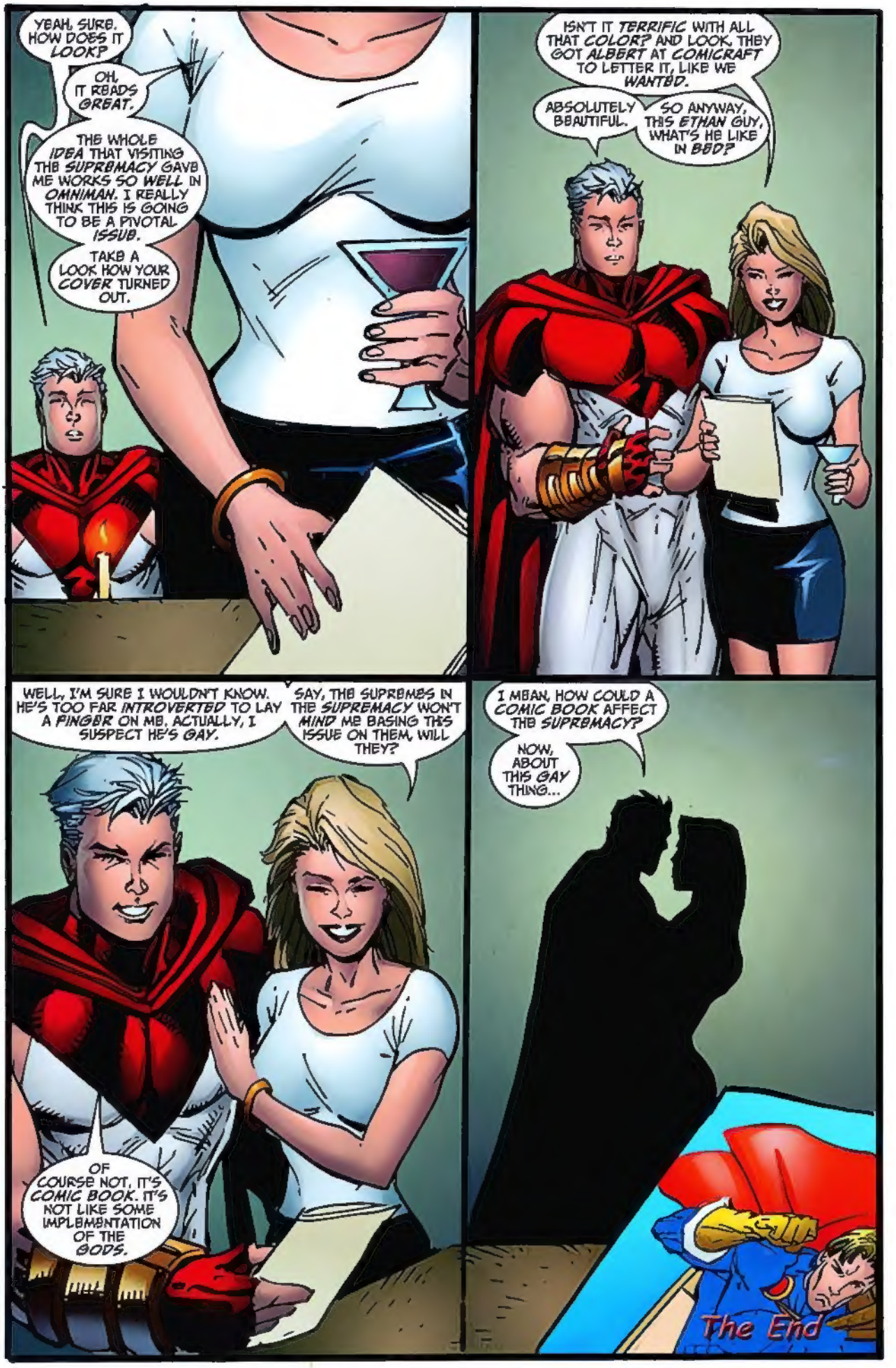

SEE, WHAT A WYLIE NEEDS IS A GRAND BACKDROP! SOME SORT OF ARCHETYPAL CONFLICT, MAYBE...
HEY! I GOT AN IDEA! WHAT IF THERE WERE THESE TWO WORLDS, ONE TOTALLY GOOD, THE OTHER TOTALLY EVIL, OKAY? AND THEY HAVE THIS WAR...
RATHER UNLIKELY IN MY WORLD, I'M AFRAID. LISTEN, I SHOULD LEAVE...

SURE, WHATEVER. YOU CAN VISIT ANY TIME YOU WANT. ANYONE CAN.
AS FOR WHAT'S UNLIKELY IN YOUR WORLD... HEY, YOU NEVER KNOW, RIGHT? WAIT AND SEE.
SO LONG, KID. IT'S BEEN GOOD TALKIN' TO YA.


WAIT! HOW DO I FIND MY WAY OUT OF THIS PLACE? IT'S SO BIG, AND I DON'T HAVE THE FIRST...

...IDEA...

"...AND THAT'S HONESTLY WHY I'M LATE. I MEAN, I KNOW IT SOUNDS KIND OF UNBELIEVABLE.
"NOW, JUDY JORDAN, SHE NEVER USED TO BELIEVE A WORD I SAID. SHE THOUGHT I WAS SEEING ANOTHER WOMAN."
...ALTHOUGH I GUESS I CAN'T BLAME HER. "HONEY, I GOT ABDUCTED TO DIMENSION Z AGAIN" IS PRETTY LAME, THINKING ABOUT IT.
HEY, LOOK, I DON'T MIND IF YOU'RE SEEING OTHER WOMEN. I MEAN, I'M SEEING THIS OTHER GUY...
Y-YOU'RE WHAT?
YEAH, IT'S THIS GOOFY, NERDY GUY AT THE PLACE WHERE I WORK. HIS NAME'S ETHAN.
I SHOULDN'T WORRY. YOU KNOW THESE OFFICE ROMANCES. I MEAN, I GIVE IT SIX WEEKS TOPS, PERSONALLY.
OH. OH RIGHT. I GET IT.
LISTEN, YOU WAIT TILL I SEE THIS GUY, OKAY? HE'S DEAD.
HA HA. NO, YOU BETTER NOT. HE'S GOTTA LOOK THROUGH THE MAKE-READY ON NEXT MONTH'S OMNIMAN BEFORE YOU TAKE HIM OUT.


YEAH, SURE. HOW DOES IT LOOK?
OH, IT READS GREAT.
THE WHOLE IDEA THAT VISITING THE SUPREMACY GAVE ME WORKS SO WELL IN OMNIMAN. I REALLY THINK THIS IS GOING TO BE A PIVOTAL ISSUE.
TAKE A LOOK HOW YOUR COVER TURNED OUT.
ISN'T IT TERRIFIC WITH ALL THAT COLOR? AND LOOK. THEY GOT ALBERT AT COMICRAFT TO LETTER IT, LIKE WE WANTED.
ABSOLUTELY BEAUTIFUL.
SO ANYWAY, THIS ETHAN GUY, WHAT'S HE LIKE IN BED?
WELL, I'M SURE I WOULDN'T KNOW. HE'S TOO FAR INTROVERTED TO LAY A FINGER ON ME. ACTUALLY, I SUSPECT HE'S GAY.
SAY, THE SUPREMES IN THE SUPREMACY WON'T MIND ME BASING THIS ISSUE ON THEM, WILL THEY?
OF COURSE NOT, IT'S COMIC BOOK. IT'S NOT LIKE SOME IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GODS.
I MEAN, HOW COULD A COMIC BOOK AFFECT THE SUPREMACY?
NOW, ABOUT THIS GAY THING...
The End